

TSUKUYOMI  
Moon Phase

月詠



10 Keitaro Arima

TOKYOPOP

Keitaro Arima

Moon Phase



10

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Kouhei and Hazuki continue to lie low on the mysterious island, learning more about their entwined fates. Kouhei vows to protect Hazuki, and Hazuki comes to terms with the possibility of never seeing her mother again. Things seem to be going swimmingly with an upcoming festival on the island, but what they don't know is that an enemy has been among them the whole time, disguised...



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Fantasy  
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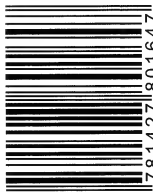
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Koitaro Arima

## Story So Far

After amateur photographer Kouhei Midou rescues the vampire girl Hazuki from her prison in an old castle, Hazuki follows him to Japan in order to find her mother. But Count Kinkle, the sinister vampire responsible for Hazuki's imprisonment, won't let her escape so easily. He follows her to Japan and nearly manages to capture her. Kouhei, barely able to defeat the Count, decides to hone his abilities in order to protect Hazuki. After two long years training in the mountains, the vampires finally catch up with them. But Kouhei's training has paid off, and he manages, using the "Erase" spell, to narrowly defeat Hazuki's pursuers. Their location discovered, Kouhei and company leave the mountains and soon find themselves on an ancient island gearing up to participate in a festival. Assuming themselves safe from the vampires, they gang settles in for some much needed relaxation. Little do they know, the vampire Freya is lying in wait...

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TSUKUYOMI

# Moon Phase

# 月詠

CREATED BY  
KEITARO ARIMA



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Created by Keitaro Arima

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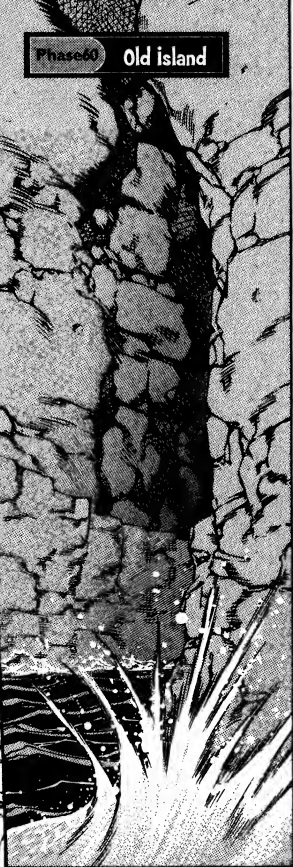
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WELL, THAT SHOULD GIVE US SOME PROTECTION FROM WHAT'S WAITING OUTSIDE...

...WHICH TAKES CARE OF ONE PROBLEM. AS FOR THE TREE...



A VEIL SETTLES ...

...COVER!

Phase60

old island





OH,  
HOW  
CUTE  
...

THEY'VE  
ERECTED  
A KKKAI  
FOR PROTEC-  
TION.



UN-  
LUCKY,  
I SUP-  
POSE  
...



ア  
ズ  
.

◇  
◇



...WE'LL  
HAVE  
TO BE  
CARE-  
FUL  
...

...TO  
NOT GET  
EATEN.



ISN'T  
THAT  
RIGHT?  
♡

...THAT  
I'M  
ALREADY  
HERE  
...

FOR  
THEM  
ANYWAY.



DEMON  
OF THE  
NETHER-  
WORLDS  
...

COME  
FORTH  
AND  
OBEY!

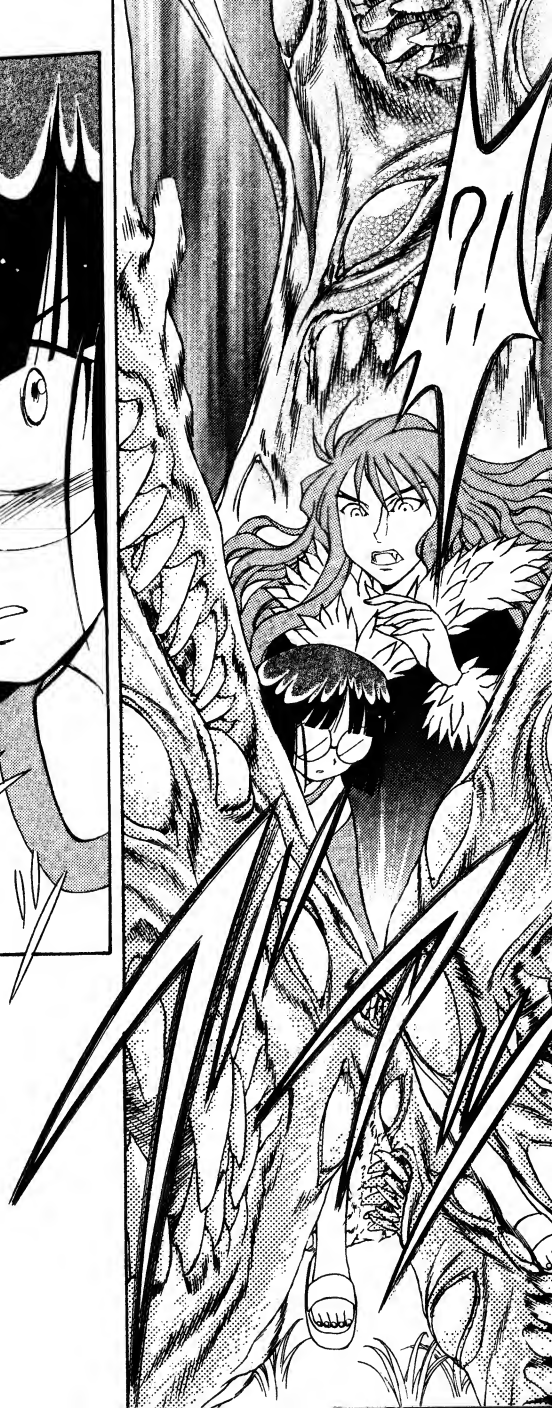






WELL,  
WELL  
♡

IM-  
PRES-  
SIVE.





AREN'T  
YOU  
SIMPLY  
PRE-  
CIOUS!



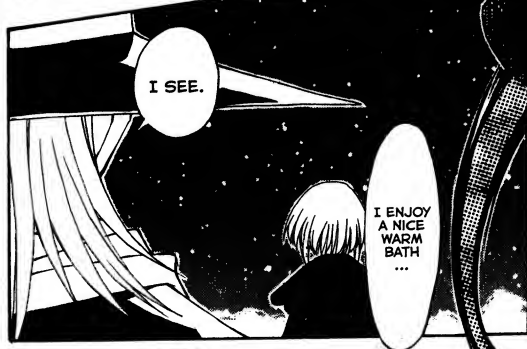
MY...



CAN  
YOU  
SEE?

YES.

NOT THAT  
SIGHT IS ALL  
THAT USEFUL  
FROM THIS  
DISTANCE.  
THEY MUST  
KNOW WE  
CANNOT  
CROSS IN  
A BOAT.





YES,  
MISS.

I...  
HATE  
THIS  
PLACE.

JAEDA,  
KEEP  
AN EYE  
ON THE  
ISLAND  
FOR ME.



EYES  
ON THE  
ISLAND  
...

EYES TO  
SEE, TO  
WATCH--

OH  
WELL  
...

I SUP-  
POSE  
THERE  
IS NO  
ALTER-  
NATIVE.





AH,  
JAEDA.  
IT'S BEEN  
AWHILE.

FREYA--  
IS THAT  
YOU?!



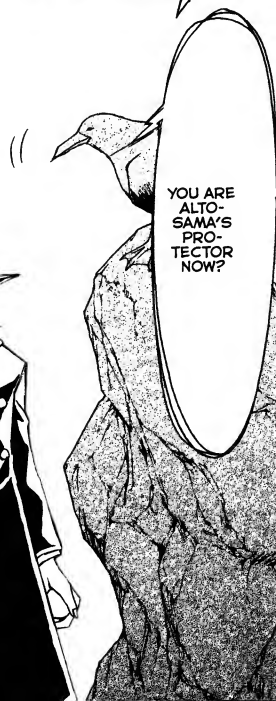
A  
PITY  
...

I'M  
SUR-  
PRISED.

HE  
WAS  
THE MOST  
EXPERI-  
ENCED  
AMONG  
US.

I  
AM.

BALGUS  
WAS DE-  
STROYED.



YOU ARE  
ALTO-  
SAMA'S  
PRO-  
TECTOR  
NOW?



BITE YOUR  
TONGUE,  
JAEDA.  
I WAS DOING  
MY JOB. AND  
UNLIKE YOU, I  
SUCCEEDED.

MY  
PLACE  
...?

AND  
WHERE  
WERE YOU  
EXACTLY?

BALTUS  
SUMMONED  
YOU. YOU  
NEVER  
CAME.  
HAVE YOU  
FORGOTTEN  
YOUR  
PLACE?

WHAT?!

THAT  
MEANS...?  
IT CAN'T  
BE!

IT  
IS.

MAKE NO  
MISTAKE.



THERE  
IS ONE  
ELDER...

...ON  
THAT  
ISLAND.







IT'S THE  
HOWLING OF A  
VAMPIRE WHEN  
IT FEEDS.

THEY'RE  
CLOSE!



WAIT,  
DIDN'T  
YOU SAY  
THEY  
FOUND  
HIM IN  
MIHAMA?!

THEY'VE  
FOUND  
JIROU-  
NII IN  
MIKOSHI-  
IWA!

WHAT?  
NO! I  
DON'T  
REMEMBER  
THAT.

SURABO...

KOUHEI,  
YOU  
DON'T  
THINK--?

FATHER!!

FATHER!



AND THEN  
HE JUST  
PASSED  
OUT.

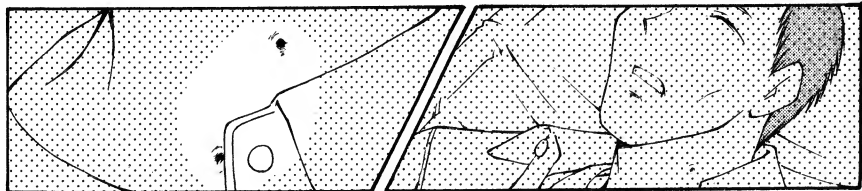
HE  
SCARED  
US  
HALF TO  
DEATH...

WE WERE  
WALKING UP  
TSUZURA  
HILL WHEN  
HE POPPED  
OUT OF THE  
BUSHES.

JIROU-  
NII!

JIROU-  
NII!

JIROU-  
NII!



HURRY  
UP!

C'MON  
...

GRAZZZY!

...  
BEEN  
AS-  
SAULT-  
ED BY A  
VAMPIRE.

HE'S  
...



I'M HOME.

FORGET ABOUT THE DOORS !!

WHAT ABOUT KAORU? THERE'S A VAMPIRE OUT THERE AND SHE ISN'T BACK YET!

THAT MAY BE SO, DEAR...

BUT IT'S GETTING LATE.

CLICK  
CLICK

DON'T WORRY, THERE AREN'T ANY THIEVES ON THIS ISLAND!



I KNOW ...

I HEARD.

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? I'VE BEEN WORRIED SICK...

THERE'S A VAMPIRE OUT THERE SOME WHERE--



SHEESH ...

WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU ANYWAY?

I'M SORRY.



?!  
KAORU!

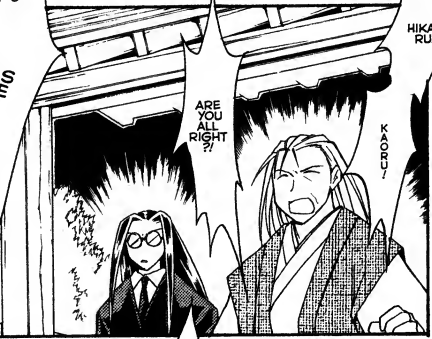


WELL ...

AT LEAST YOU'RE SAFE.



YAYOI-SAMA!



HIKARU!

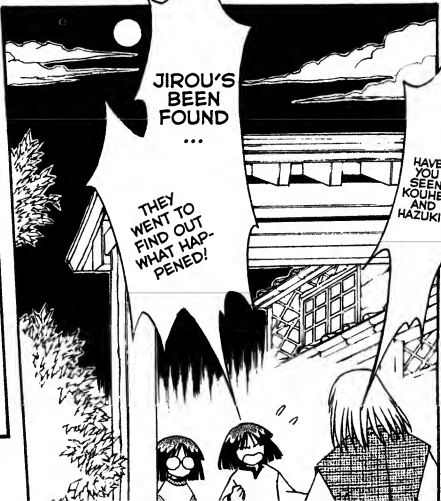
KAORU!

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?



KAORU?

WHAT'S THE MATTER?



JIROU'S BEEN FOUND ...

THEY WENT TO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED!

HAVE YOU SEEN KOUHEI AND HAZUKI?







IT'S  
NO  
USE.

I  
CAN'T  
TELL  
HER  
WHAT  
HAP-  
PENED  
TO ME  
...

I TRY,  
AND I  
CAN'T  
SPEAK.

H  
u  
f  
f  
...

H  
u  
f  
f

H  
u  
f  
f

H  
u  
f  
f

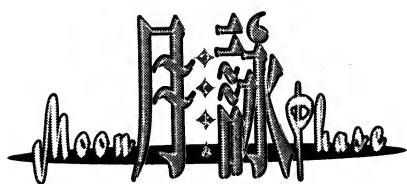


HIKARU...

RUN  
AWAY  
...

EVERY-  
ONE...  
RUN!

KOHEI...







① THIS PHOTO IS OF THE GRAND SHRINE AT ISE. THOUGH THERE ARE MANY SHRINES ALL THROUGHOUT JAPAN, THIS SHRINE IS THE TRUE EMBODIMENT OF BEAUTY. THE FACT THAT THERE IS NO LITTER COVERING THE STONE PATHS IS ASTOUNDING. INSTEAD, OLD SACRED TREES LINE THEM HERE AND THERE. I ENJOY GOING TO SHRINES AND LEARNING THEIR HISTORIES, SO I HAVE BEEN TO QUITE A FEW SHRINES. STILL, THERE IS NO PLACE LIKE THE GRAND SHRINE AT ISE.

THERE  
THERE  
...

HEH  
HEH  
...

YES  
...  
THAT'S  
IT!

HEH  
HEH  
...


LOOK  
AT  
YOU  
TRY-  
ING  
SO  
HARD  
TO  
RE-  
SIST  
ME.

THERE'S  
NOTHING  
YOU'D  
LIKE  
MORE  
THAN  
TO  
FEAST  
ON MY  
SOUL.

SIMPLY  
ADORABLE.  
▽

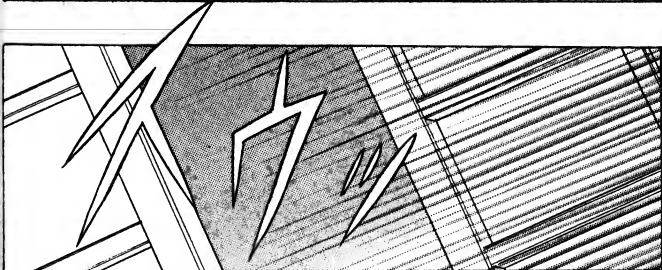
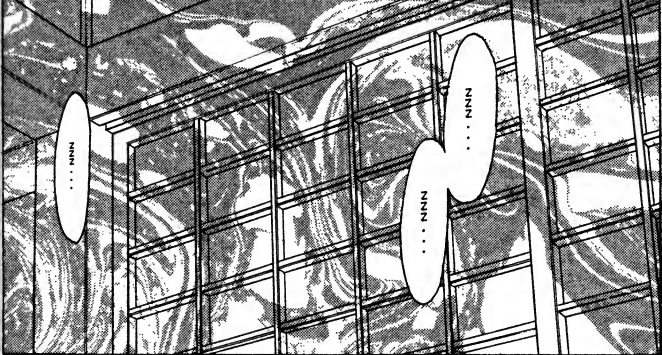


IT'S A  
RACE  
TO THE  
FINISH!  
♡



WILL  
I SUC-  
CUMB  
TO  
YOU?

OR  
WILL YOU  
BECOME  
IRREVO-  
CABLY  
MINE  
?!





IT'S ONLY ME.

HUH ?!

HUH...  
VAMPIRE  
?!



KOUCHEE!!



AND  
SINCE YOU'RE  
ALL BY YOUR-  
SELF IN  
HERE...

I  
THOUGHT  
I'D COME  
AND  
KEEP YOU  
COMPANY.



.....  
WELL,  
YAYOI-  
SAMA  
AND  
SEIJI...

...HAVE  
SET UP  
A WATCH  
FOR THE  
EVENING.



K-  
KAO-  
RU-  
CHAN ?

WHAT  
IS IT?







ER...

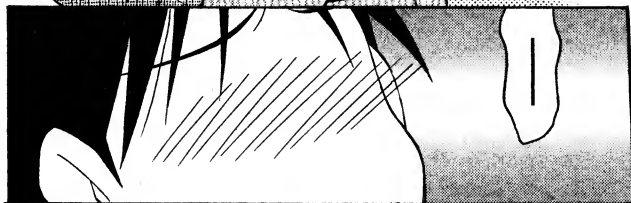
UM  
...

SOME-  
TIMES YOU  
SPEND TOO  
MUCH TIME  
OVER-  
THINKING  
THINGS.  
♡

... EICOK

I MEAN,  
I KNOW  
THAT  
TECHNI-  
CALLY  
WE'RE  
EN-  
GAGED  
...

BUT  
THAT  
DOESN'T  
NECES-  
SARILY  
MEAN  
LOVE,  
RIGHT?



お  
4



WELL, IF  
YOU NEED  
A LOGICAL  
REASON,  
I HAVE  
ONE.

IT WON'T  
SURPRISE  
YOU TO  
KNOW...

THIS ISN'T  
THE FIRST  
TIME I'VE  
HEARD  
THAT...



WARU²

YES  
...

REMEMBER  
BACK WHEN  
HIKARU  
WAS IN THE  
HOSPITAL?

I'LL  
TELL  
YOU.

WHAT  
?!



...AND  
HIKARU  
SAVED  
ME.

WELL, THE  
CAR WAS  
ABOUT TO  
HIT ME...

EVERYONE  
SAID  
THAT THE  
ACCIDENT  
WASN'T MY  
FAULT...

BUT  
...

SHE  
JUMPED  
IN FRONT  
OF THE  
CAR AND  
PUSHED  
ME OUT  
OF THE  
WAY.



AFTER  
SHE  
GOT  
HIT BY  
THAT  
CAR?

YES.



HIKARU!!

...SOME-  
THING IS  
GAINED.



EVEN IN  
LOSS...



IN THE  
ACCI-  
DENT,  
HIKARU  
SAID  
SOME-  
THING...

SHOVE

BUT  
INSTEAD,  
THOSE  
WORDS  
STUCK  
WITH  
HIKARU...

I  
THOUGHT  
POINTING  
OUT THAT  
MY ABILITY  
DIDN'T  
COME  
WITHOUT  
A SAC-  
RIFICE  
WOULD  
MAKE  
HER FEEL  
BETTER.

I  
HAVE  
BAD  
EYE-  
SIGHT.

AND IN  
TURN,  
I HAVE  
OTHER  
ABILITIES  
...

SEE,  
BACK  
THEN,  
HIKARU  
WAS  
JUST  
LIKE YOU.  
SHE  
DIDN'T  
HAVE ANY  
SPECIAL  
ABILITIES.

SHE FELT  
AWFUL  
ABOUT IT.

...AND  
THAT'S  
WHY  
SHE  
HESITA-  
TED  
ABOUT  
RUNNING  
AWAY.

AND  
THEN  
...

I DIDN'T  
KNOW WHAT  
TO DO.

MAYBE  
THE ACCIDENT  
WASN'T MY  
FAULT, I DON'T  
KNOW...

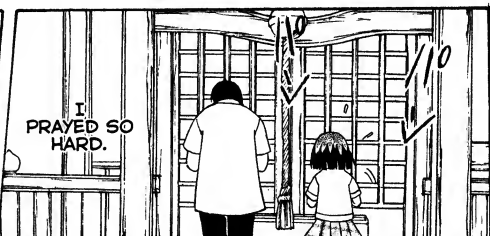
YOU  
CAME  
TO VISIT  
HIKARU  
IN THE  
HOS-  
PITAL.

KAORU  
...

BUT I COULDN'T  
STAND HEARING  
EVERYONE'S KIND  
WORDS, SAYING  
IT WASN'T.









AND EVER SINCE THE ACCIDENT, KAORU'S PHYSICAL ABILITIES HAVE IMPROVED.



Hiyah!

HER REFLEXES AND STRENGTH ADVANCED TO A MUCH HIGHER LEVEL.



AFTER THAT, I PRAYED ALL THE TIME FOR HIKARU TO RECOVER.



SHE AND HAZUKI WERE COMPETING AGAINST EACH OTHER!

SO YOU'RE SAYING SHE SACRIFICED HERSELF FOR YOU IN ORDER TO GAIN POWERS?

THAT'S RIGHT.

MAYBE IT HELPED, MAYBE IT DIDN'T. BUT SOON AFTER THAT, HIKARU REGAINED CONSCIOUSNESS.

I  
REMEM-  
BER YOU  
SAYING  
THAT AND  
LAUGH-  
ING.



SO IT  
LOOKS  
LIKE WE  
NEED  
TO GIVE  
THANKS  
...

...AT  
ALL THE  
SHRINES,  
YEAH?



?!

PSST ...

KAORU  
...



KAORU  
IT'S BEEN  
AWHILE  
...

GOOD  
TO SEE  
YOU.

THE  
NEXT  
TIME I  
SAW YOU  
WAS AT  
HIKARU'S  
COMING  
HOME PARTY  
...

AND  
THAT  
WAS  
REALLY  
THE  
FIRST  
TIME...

I EVER  
CONSID-  
ERED THE  
WORD  
"FIANCEE"  
SERIOUS-  
LY.



Well?.

What do you think?



I'M  
SEIJI'S  
FIANCEE  
NOW.

WAS  
I RIGHT  
TO AC-  
CEPT?



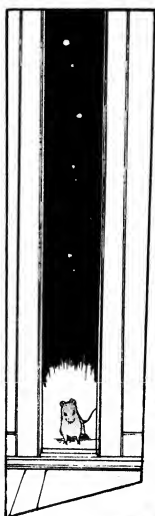
AND I  
FELT...  
IT WAS  
EMBAR-  
RAS-  
SING.

AND  
I  
THOUGHT  
OF  
YOU--  
THE  
ONE  
WHO  
TOOK  
MY BY  
THE  
HAND.

AND I WAS  
GLAD THAT  
I WAS  
PROMISED  
TO YOU.

EVEN NOW,  
SEE, MY  
HEART...





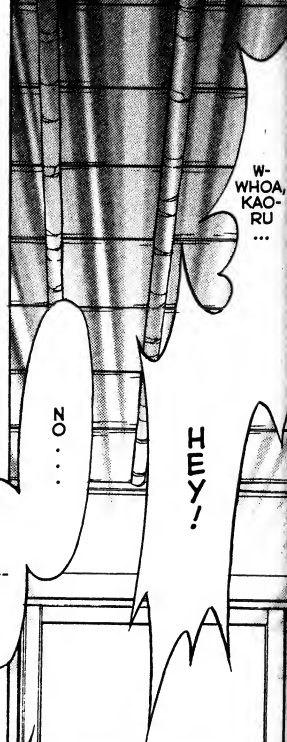
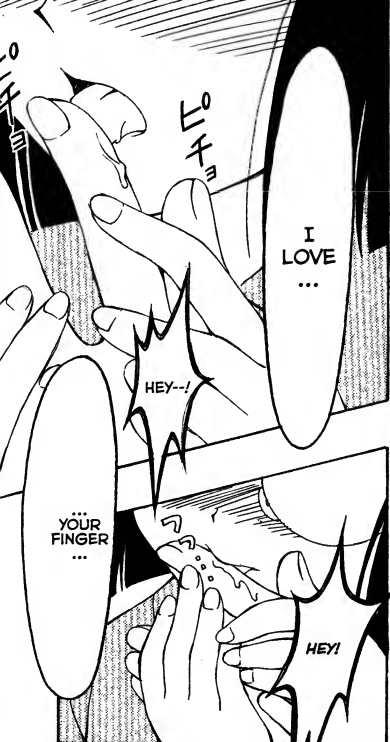
CAN  
YOU  
FEEL  
IT?

MY  
HEART  
IS  
POUND-  
ING...

P  
E  
R  
F  
E  
C  
T  
!

HEH  
HEH  
HEH!

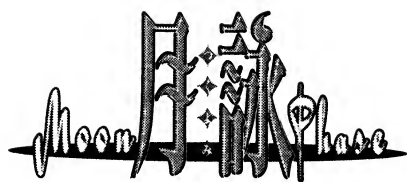
HEH!

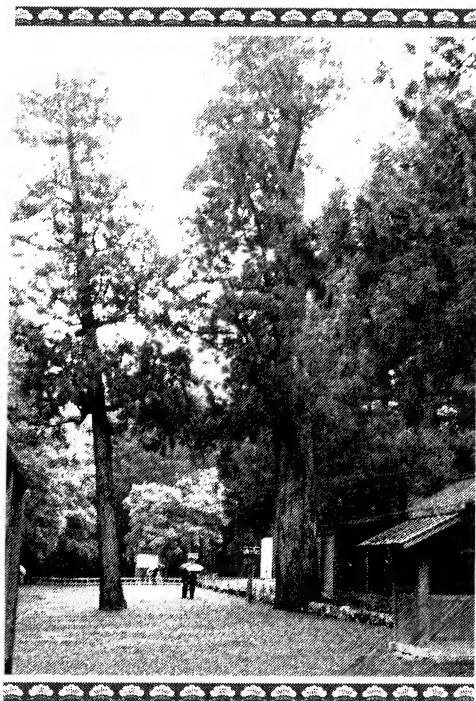




I  
KNOW  
THAT  
...

...I'M  
THE  
SEXIER  
GIRL.





THIS IS THE FRONT OF THE OUTER SHRINE AT ISE, WHICH IS NOW CONSIDERED PART OF "THE GRAND SHRINE AT ISE," BUT WAS ONCE A COMPLETELY SEPARATE SHRINE. IN ISE, THERE IS A CITY CALLED UJI-YAMADA--IT SEEMS THAT ORIGINALLY UJI GOVERNED THE INNER SHRINE AND THAT THE OUTER SHRINE WAS GOVERNED BY YAMADA.





HEH  
HEH  
...



HEH  
HEH  
HEH  
HEH  
...



AS LONG  
AS  
YOU'RE  
THE ONE  
DOING  
IT, I  
DON'T  
CARE  
WHAT  
IT IS.

EVEN  
IF IT  
HURTS,  
I'LL BE  
HAPPY.

SO,  
DON'T  
BE  
AFRAID.

...WILL  
KNOW. I  
WON'T TELL  
HAZUKI OR  
ANYONE  
ELSE  
...SO...

NO  
ONE  
...

...  
?!  
...



KOCHI...-MICHI

DO  
WHAT-  
EVER  
YOU  
WANT  
TO ME.  
I WANT  
YOU  
TO.

NO  
ONE'S  
FORCING  
ME.



IT'S  
JUST--

KAORU!  
STOP.  
THIS  
ISN'T  
RIGHT.

HOW  
COULD  
I...?

I JUST  
CAN'T.

NO,  
NOT  
AT  
ALL!

WHY...

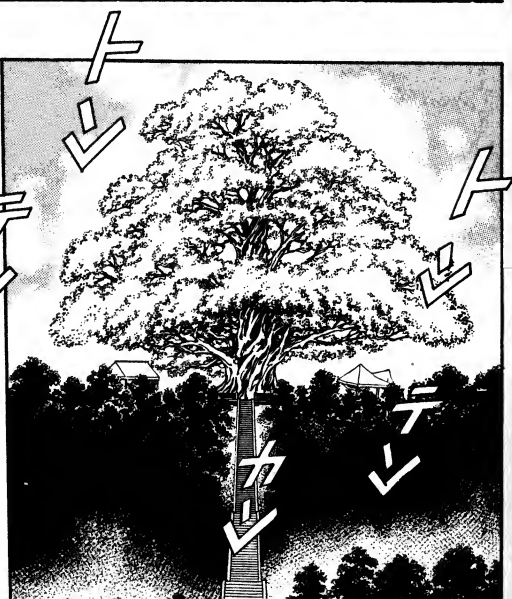
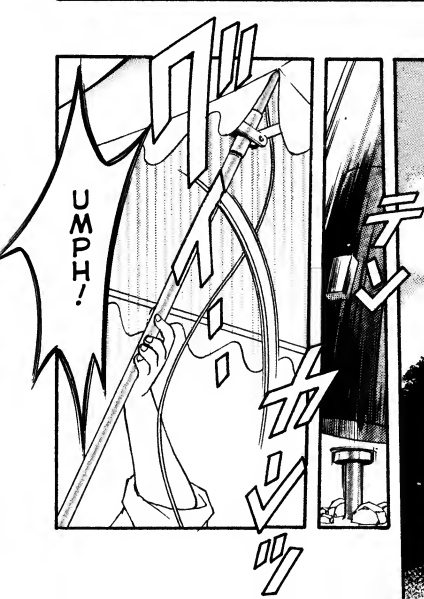
IS  
SOME-  
THING  
WRONG  
WITH  
ME?

2











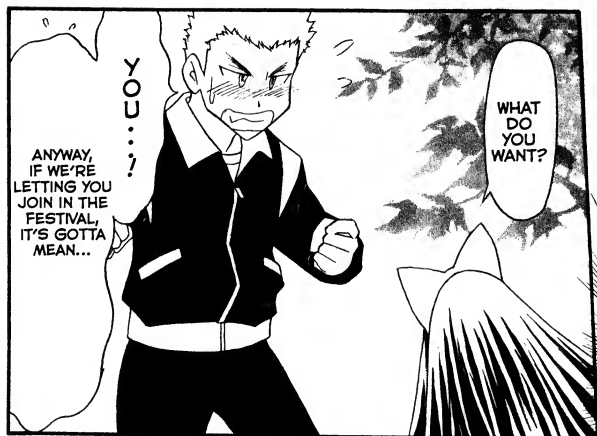




SOME-  
THING

...

...ABOUT  
THIS  
TREE...



...FEELS...

...SO  
FAMIL-  
IAR.





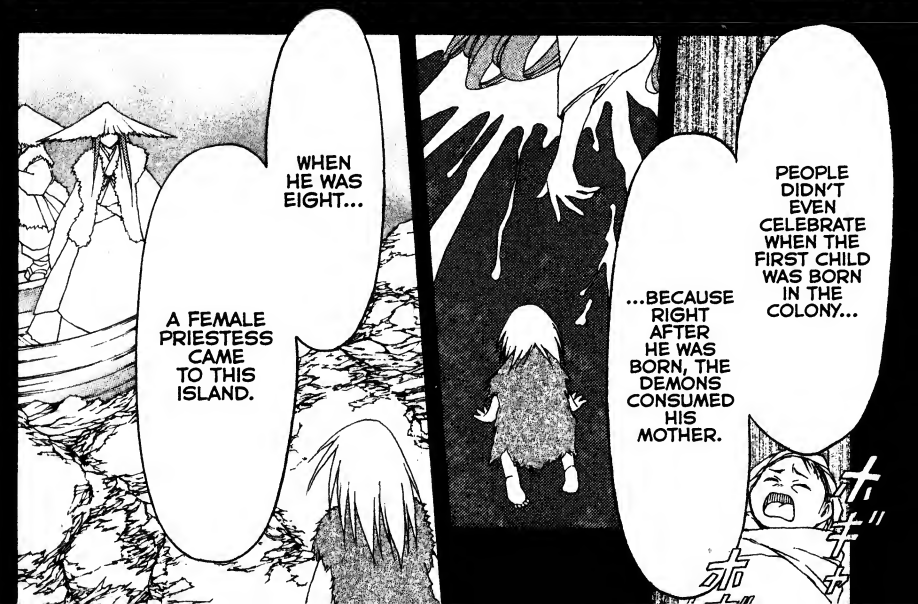
WELL,  
PEOPLE  
DO CALL  
IT THE  
"MOTHER  
TREE."

A  
LONG  
TIME  
AGO, THIS  
ISLAND  
WAS A  
PENAL  
COLONY.

THIS  
ISLAND WAS  
SWARMING  
WITH  
DEMONS,  
SO COMING  
HERE  
MEANT  
DEATH.

MOTHER.

YEP!



WHEN  
HE WAS  
EIGHT...

A FEMALE  
PRIESTESS  
CAME  
TO THIS  
ISLAND.

PEOPLE  
DIDN'T  
EVEN  
CELEBRATE  
WHEN THE  
FIRST CHILD  
WAS BORN  
IN THE  
COLONY...

...BECAUSE  
RIGHT  
AFTER  
HE WAS  
BORN, THE  
DEMONS  
CONSUMED  
HIS  
MOTHER.



HOW  
COULD I  
CAST AWAY  
A CHILD  
WHO  
CALLS ME  
MOTHER?

I SHALL  
TRANSFORM  
INTO A  
TREE AND  
PROTECT  
THIS ISLAND  
AS ITS  
MOTHER.

LEGEND  
HAS IT  
THAT  
SHE WAS  
SUCKED  
RIGHT  
INTO  
THIS  
TREE.

AND  
THEN--

MOMMY!

AND  
TO THE  
CHILD  
WHO  
HAD  
NEVER  
KNOWN  
HIS  
MOTHER  
...

WITHOUT A  
THOUGHT,  
THAT'S  
WHAT HE  
CALLED  
HER.



AND WHEN  
HER BODY  
DISAPPEARED  
...

...THE TREES  
BLOSSOMED.



Which  
makes  
him our  
ancestor.

THE BOY  
REFERRED TO  
THE TREE AS  
"MOTHER  
TREE."

WHEN  
HE WAS  
GROWN,  
HE  
BECAME  
A PRIEST  
DEDICATED  
TO HER.

INTERESTING...

THE  
MOTHER  
TREE  
...

THEN  
A WIND  
SWEEP  
OVER THE  
ENTIRE  
ISLAND...

...AND ALL OF  
THE DEMONS  
WERE SWEEP  
UP AND  
AWAY, ALONG  
WITH THE  
BLOSSOMS.



...IT  
FEELS  
FAMILIAR.

SO  
THAT'S  
WHY  
...



?!

WHAT'S  
WRONG?

WHAT  
IS  
THAT  
?!



SURE.

I HAVE ONE MORE QUESTION.

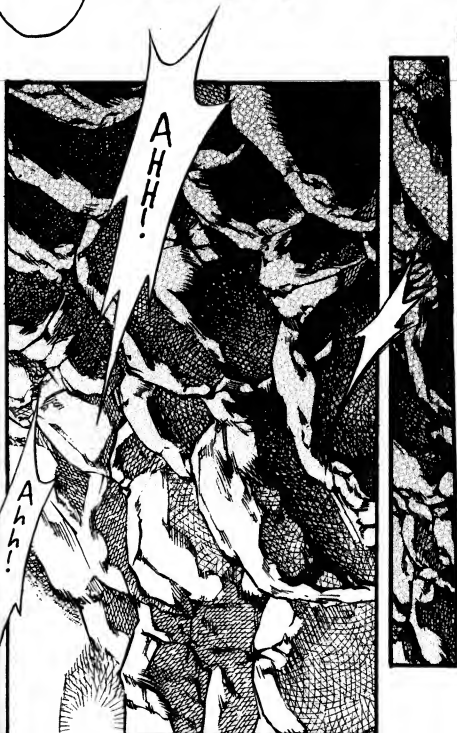
HEY ...



Hmph

WHAT ARE THOSE EARS?

THIS IS HOW I DRESS !!



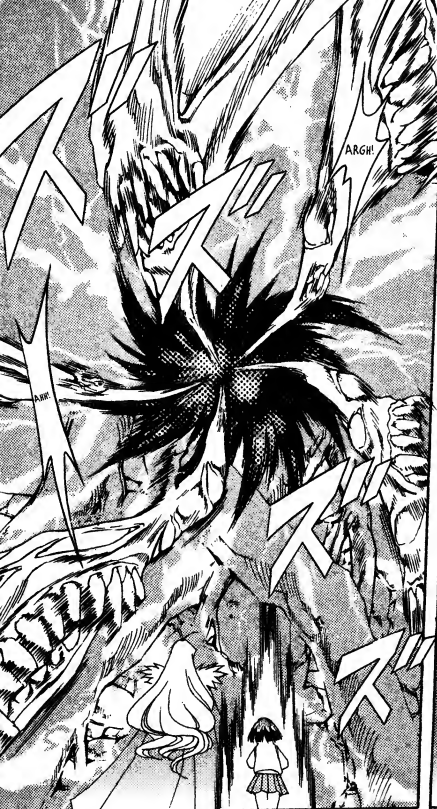
AHH!

Ahh!



THE TREE--IT SCREAM-ED!

WHY ?!





I  
THOUGHT  
THAT  
SINCE  
THE  
DEMONS  
YOU  
KEEP  
...

...ARE  
SIMILAR  
TO THE  
ONES  
IN THIS  
TREE, THEY  
WOULD  
CANCEL  
EACH  
OTHER  
OUT.

HUFF

IT  
LOOKS  
AS IF  
WE'VE  
GOT  
OUR-  
SELVES  
CAUGHT  
IN THE  
TREE!



AS  
YOU  
WISH.

I  
CAN  
PUT  
YOU  
VERY  
CLOSE  
TO THE  
KEKKAI  
TO  
TEST  
IT  
OUT  
...

...AND IF  
IT WORKS,  
WE SHOULD  
BE ABLE  
TO FREE  
OURSELVES.









WE'LL  
TRY  
AGAIN  
...

...ONCE  
EVERYONE  
IS DISTRACT-  
ED BY THE  
FESTIVAL.

YOU'LL  
HAVE TO  
WEAR  
THIS  
RING.  
NOW  
RUN OFF  
HOME.



THERE'S  
ONLY  
ONE  
THING  
I CAN  
DO.



SO  
...

HOW  
DID YOU  
ENJOY  
LAST  
NIGHT?



.....



IT'S  
OKAY  
...

YOU  
DON'T  
HAVE  
TO  
WOR-  
RY.



YOU  
REALLY  
ARE...  
♡

...SO  
INNOC-  
CENT.  
♡

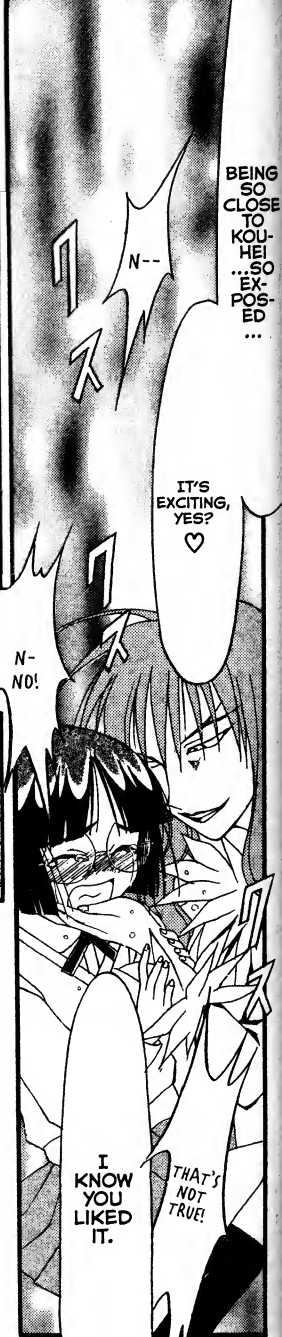
♡CIC♡



KOUHEI-  
NISAMA!

HE'LL  
SUCCUMB  
TO YOUR  
CHARMS...  
♡

I'LL  
SEE TO IT  
PERSON-  
ALLY.  
♡



BEING  
SO  
CLOSE  
TO  
KOU-  
HEI!  
...SO  
EX-  
POS-  
ED  
...

IT'S  
EXCITING,  
YES?  
♡

N-  
NO!

I  
KNOW  
YOU  
LIKED  
IT.

THAT'S  
NOT  
TRUE!



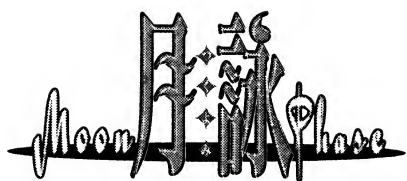
THAT  
DAY  
...

AND  
THIS  
TIME...

I  
PROMISE  
YOU  
A NIGHT  
WE'LL  
BOTH  
RE-  
MEM-  
BER!  
♡

...  
IT  
SEEMED  
LIKE  
THE  
TREE'S  
BLOS-  
SOMS  
...

...WERE  
MUCH  
LARGER  
THAN  
USUAL.






THIS NEXT PHOTO IS OF ANOTHER OUTER SHRINE NEARBY: TSUKUYOMI. ALTHOUGH IT HAS LITTLE CONNECTION WITH THE JAPANESE MYTHOLOGY, I COULDN'T HELP BUT GO HERE BECAUSE IT'S NAMED "TSUKUYOMI." AS I MENTIONED EARLIER, THE INNER AND OUTER SHRINES ARE DIFFERENT, AND AS SUCH, THERE ARE EVEN SEPARATE SHRINES DEDICATED SOLELY TO THIS "TSUKUYOMI."



IT'S  
DIFFICULT  
TO BELIEVE  
THEY'RE  
SO CLOSE  
ALREADY...



...BUT  
CLEARLY  
THEY ARE.  
WHY WOULD  
THEY  
PURPOSELY  
SET FOOT  
HERE?



NO  
EASY  
ANSWERS  
...



IT'S  
TROUBLE  
AFTER  
TROUBLE  
...





Phase63

Hazuki and Yayoi





WHAT  
DO YOU  
THINK  
ABOUT  
RECENT  
EVENTS?

WELL  
...

I  
WANT  
YOUR  
OPINION  
ON  
SOME-  
THING  
...

WHAT  
IS IT  
?

SEIJI-?  
!

?!  
?



I'M  
JUST  
TRYING  
TO STAY  
FOCUSED ON  
PREPARING  
FOR THE  
FESTIVAL.

I'D  
RATHER BE  
HUNTING THE  
VAMPIRES  
DOWN, BUT  
MASTER  
INSISTED I  
PREPARE.



AND IT'S  
FRUSTRATING,  
BECAUSE  
WE DON'T  
KNOW  
WHERE  
THEY  
ARE,  
OR WHAT  
KIND OF  
VAMPIRES  
WE'RE  
DEALING  
WITH.

WELL,  
I'M  
SUR-  
PRISED  
THAT  
THERE  
ARE  
AL-  
READY  
VAMPIRES  
ON THE  
ISLAND.



I'M  
WOR-  
RIED.

PLEASE  
HELP  
ME.

...COME  
OUT AND  
ASK ME  
LIKE  
THAT.

HMM.  
I DIDN'T  
THINK YOU'D  
JUST...



Hey,  
come on.  
That's not  
cool...

HONESTLY,  
I DON'T KNOW  
WHAT YOU'RE DOING  
PROTECTING THAT  
CAT-EAR-WEARING  
VAMPIRE  
GIRL...

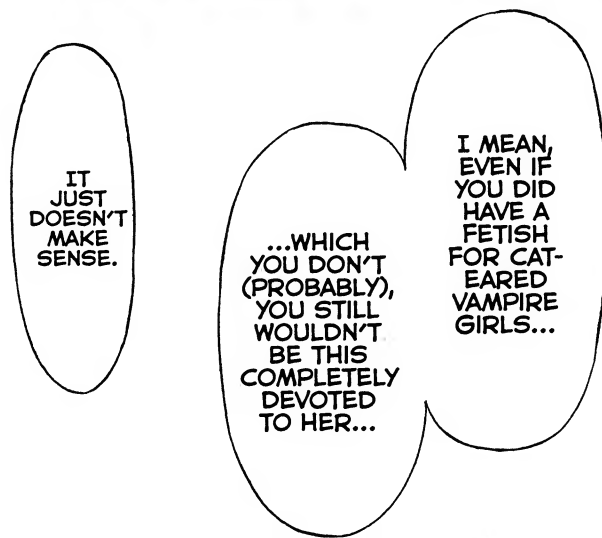
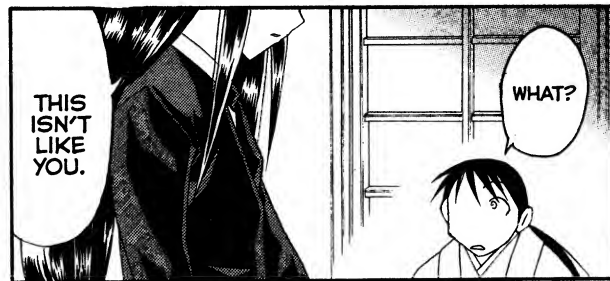
NEVERTHELESS,  
IT SEEMS OUR  
FATE HAS BEEN  
SEALED SINCE  
THAT DAY I  
TOOK YOU TO  
GERMANY. OF  
COURSE I WILL  
HELP YOU.



I WANT TO  
PROTECT  
HAZUKI.  
I'LL DO  
ANYTHING  
TO KEEP  
HER SAFE.

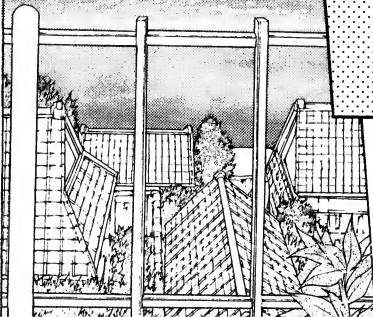
BUT  
I ALSO  
DON'T  
WANT  
ANYONE  
ELSE TO  
HAVE TO  
GET IN-  
VOLVED.  
IT'S DANGEROUS.

BUT  
...





WHY IS  
SHE SO  
SPECIAL  
?!











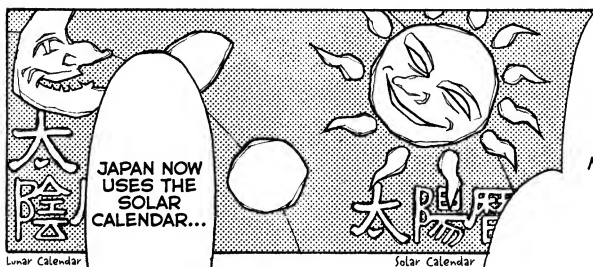
HUH?

"YÄYOI  
HARE."

IN  
ANCIENT  
TIMES,  
THE  
ORIGINAL  
JAPANESE  
TERM  
WAS...



I  
SUP-  
POSE  
IT IS.



JAPAN NOW  
USES THE  
SOLAR  
CALENDAR...

DID YOU  
KNOW EACH  
OF THE  
TWELVE  
MONTHS HAS  
AN ANCIENT  
NAME?

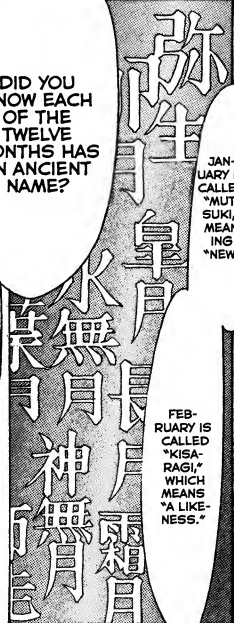
JAN-  
UARY IS  
CALLED  
"MUT-  
SUKI,"  
MEAN-  
ING  
"NEW."

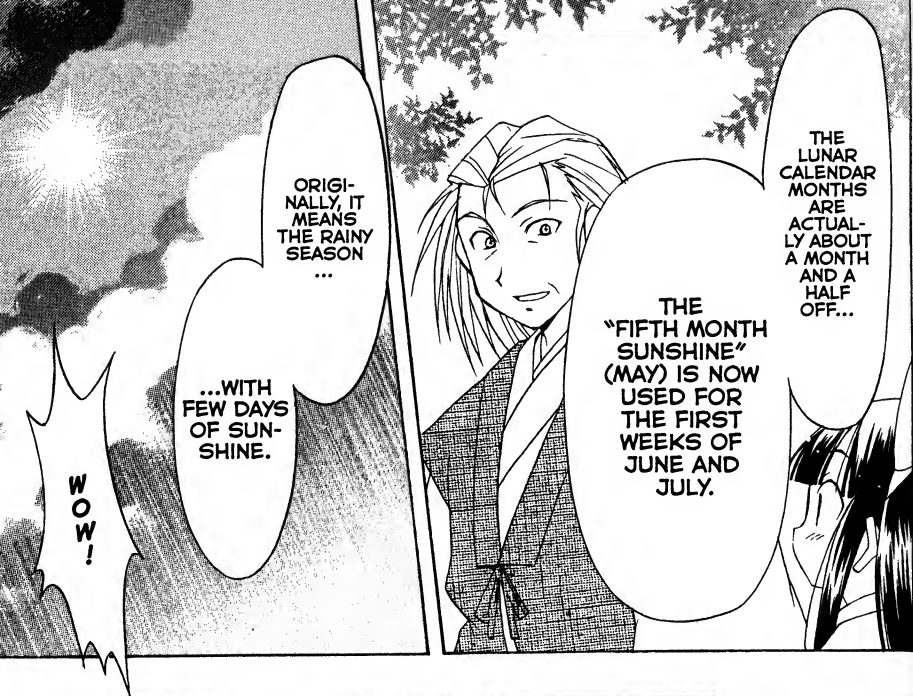
Solar Calendar	Lunar Calendar
January	November (Shimotsuki)
<b>BUT A-LONG TIME AGO, THE LUNAR CALENDAR-- IT GOES BY THE PHASES OF THE MOON --WAS THE STANDARD.</b>	December (Shiwasu)
February	January (Mutsuki)
March	February (Kisaragi)
April	March (Yayoi)
May	April (Uzuki)
June	May (Kougetsu)

Solar Calendar	Lunar Calendar
July	May (Month of Rice Sprouts)
August	June (Month of the Gods)
September	July (Month of Leaves)
October	August (Month of the Gods)
November	September (Month of the Gods)
December	October (Month of the Gods)

THOUGH,  
NOWADAYS  
THEY ARE  
HARDLY  
USED.

FEB-  
RUARY IS  
CALLED  
"KISA-  
RAGI,"  
WHICH  
MEANS  
"A LIKE-  
NESS."





ORIGI-  
NALLY, IT  
MEANS  
THE RAINY  
SEASON  
...

...WITH  
FEW DAYS  
OF SUN-  
SHINE.

WOW!

THE  
"FIFTH MONTH  
SUNSHINE"  
(MAY) IS NOW  
USED FOR  
THE FIRST  
WEEKS OF  
JUNE AND  
JULY.

THE  
LUNAR  
CALENDAR  
MONTHS  
ARE  
ACTUAL-  
LY ABOUT  
A MONTH  
AND A  
HALF  
OFF...



I  
SEE  
...

SO  
"YAYOI"  
MEANS MAY  
CLEAR-  
NESS.

THAT'S HOW IT WORKS.

RIGHT NOW, IT'S  
CONSIDERED THE  
MONTH OF UZUKI, OR  
APRIL, BUT IN ANCIENT  
TIMES IT WOULD  
STILL BE THE MONTH  
OF YAYOI, OR MAY.



...THE  
TIME  
JUST  
BEFORE  
SPRING?

THAT'S  
RIGHT.

SO...  
YOUR  
NAME  
MEANS  
...



THE  
CHILL  
IS GONE  
FROM  
THE AIR  
AND THE  
FLOWERS  
BEGIN TO  
BLOOM.

IT'S THE  
SEASON  
THAT  
MAKES  
EVERYONE  
SMILE WITH  
HOPE AS  
THEY PLANT  
THEIR  
CROPS.

ア  
ハ  
ハ

I LOVE  
IT WHEN  
PEOPLE  
SMILE...

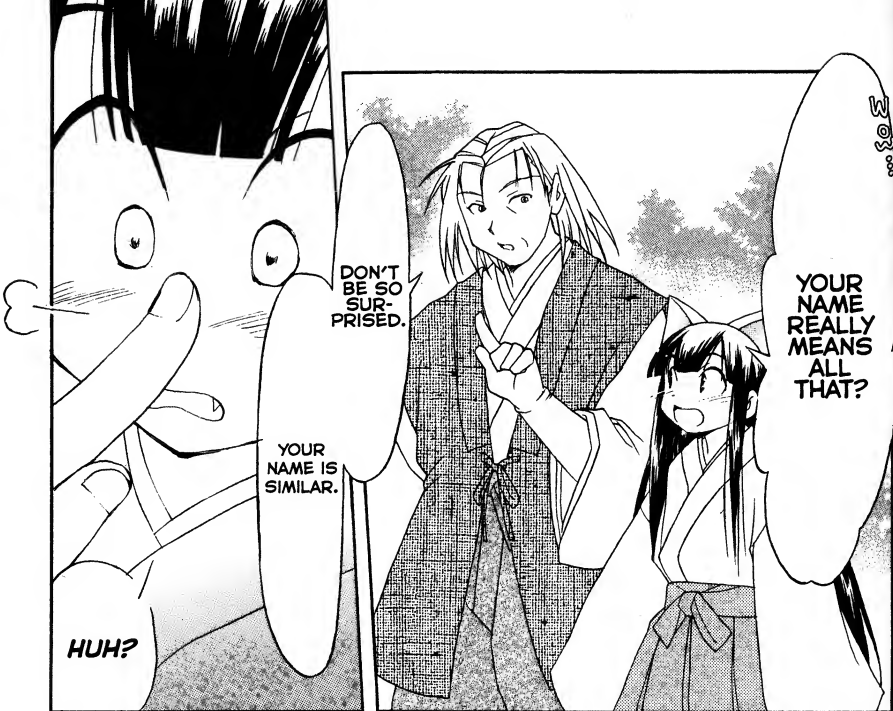
THAT'S  
WHY I  
LOVE  
THE  
YAYOI  
PERIOD.

MY  
FATHER  
LOVED  
THE  
SEASON.

"TO  
BLOOM ALL  
AROUND"...

LOVELY,  
ISN'T  
IT?

MY  
MOTHER  
WAS ALSO  
INSPIRED  
BY IT.

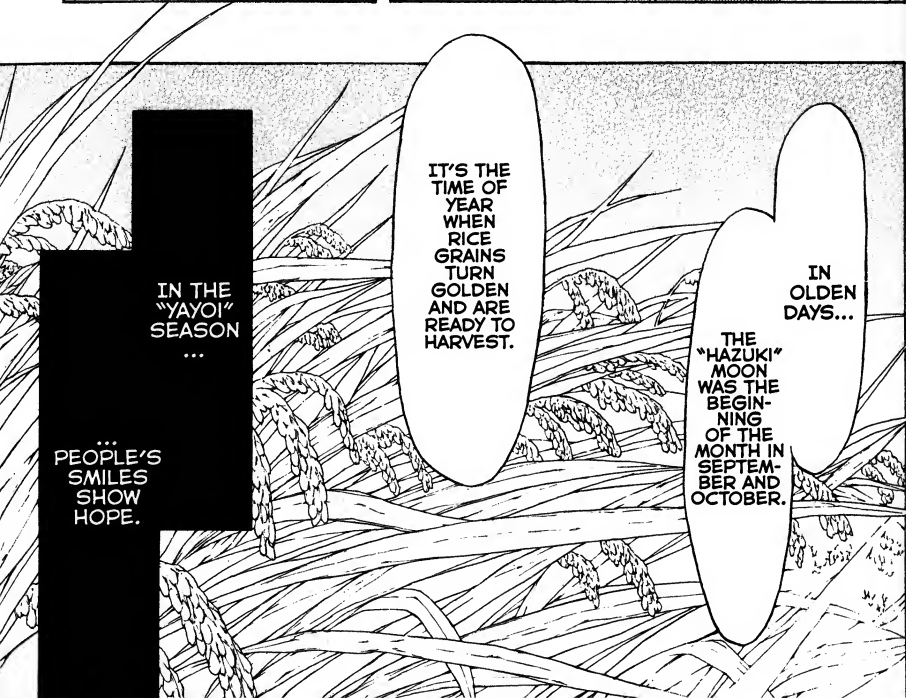


DON'T  
BE SO  
SUR-  
PRISED.

YOUR  
NAME  
REALLY  
MEANS  
ALL  
THAT?

YOUR  
NAME IS  
SIMILAR.

HUH?



IN THE  
"YAYOI"  
SEASON  
...

...  
PEOPLE'S  
SMILES  
SHOW  
HOPE.

IT'S THE  
TIME OF  
YEAR  
WHEN  
RICE  
GRAINS  
TURN  
GOLDEN  
AND ARE  
READY TO  
HARVEST.

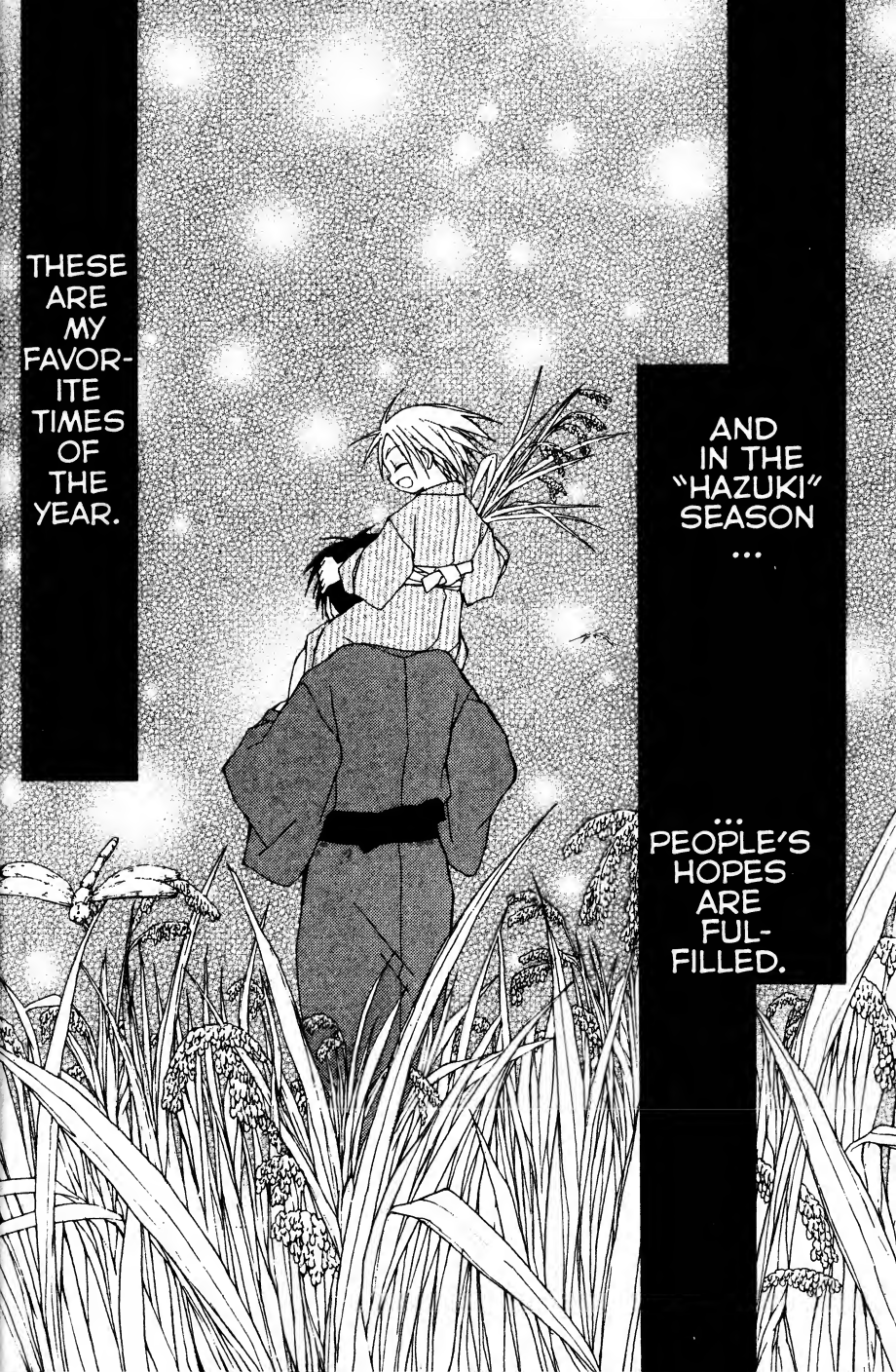
IN  
OLDEN  
DAYS...

THE  
"HAZUKI"  
MOON  
WAS THE  
BEGIN-  
NING  
OF THE  
MONTH IN  
SEPTE-  
MBER AND  
OCTOBER.

THESE  
ARE  
MY  
FAVOR-  
ITE  
TIMES  
OF  
THE  
YEAR.

AND  
IN THE  
"HAZUKI"  
SEASON  
...

...  
PEOPLE'S  
HOPES  
ARE  
FUL-  
FILLED.





SO  
MAYBE...

MY  
MOTHER  
NAMED  
ME FOR  
THAT  
TIME OF  
YEAR!

REALLY?  
♡

IT  
SEEMS  
SO.



MY  
MOTHER  
...

...AND MY  
FATHER--  
THEY LIKED  
THE SAME  
WORDS.



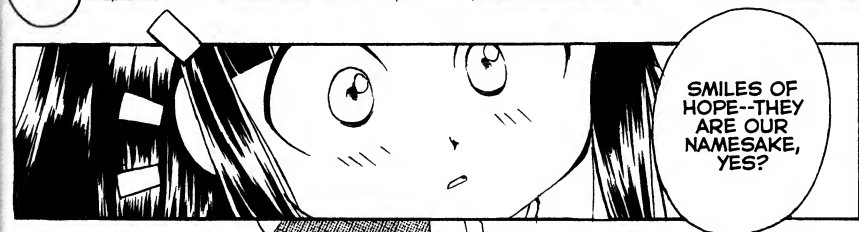


NOW  
LET'S  
GET BACK  
TO PRAC-  
TICING THE  
OFFERING  
DANCE.

AFTER  
ALL  
...

WE  
HAVE  
DUTIES  
HERE  
TO FUL-  
FILL.

WOULD-  
N'T YOU  
LIKE TO  
SEE THE  
ISLAND  
SMILE?



SMILES OF  
HOPE--THEY  
ARE OUR  
NAMESAKE,  
YES?



THAT'S  
THE  
SPIRIT!

YES,  
SIR!



...IT  
SHOULD  
WEAKEN  
THE  
ISLAND.


H  
M  
M  
...

IF I  
WERE  
SOMEHOW  
ABLE TO  
HARNESS  
THE  
ENERGY  
FROM THE  
FESTIVAL  
...

BUT  
NO  
...

...  
AND  
THE  
FESTI-  
VAL IS  
GOING  
TO BE  
MY  
PARTY.

THAT  
WOULDN'T  
BE  
ANY  
FUN...



DAMMIT!

I CAN'T BELIEVE  
WE  
STILL  
HAVEN'T  
HEARD  
FROM  
FREYA.



I  
WANT  
TO  
BE  
...

...THE  
ONLY  
ONE  
SMILING.

HARDLY.

ALTHOUGH  
I DO  
UNDER-  
STAND  
YOUR  
DESIRE  
TO ACT.

WE  
MUST  
ACT AS  
ONE,  
SINCE  
THERE  
ARE NOT  
MANY OF  
US LEFT.

IT  
CAN'T  
BE  
HELPED  
...

ARE  
YOU  
GOING  
...

...  
TO  
GET  
LUNA  
?

AS IT  
SHOULD  
BE.

WE  
MOVE  
ONLY  
TO BE  
THE  
HANDS  
AND  
FEET  
OF  
OUR  
CLAN  
...

WE  
BANISH  
OUR  
INDIVID-  
UAL  
DESIRES.

.....

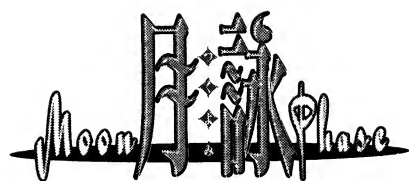


YES.

SO,  
LET  
US GO  
NOW...

...AND  
RETRIEVE  
LADY  
LUNA.

FATHER  
HAS  
ORDERED  
IT.







THIS INNER SHRINE IS KNOWN AS "TSUKUYOMI SHRINE." THE FUN THING ABOUT THIS SHRINE IS THAT ITS CHINESE CHARACTERS ARE WRITTEN DIFFERENTLY FROM THE OUTER SHRINE'S, "TSUKUYOMI SHRINE." IN ANCIENT TEXTS, "SACRED TSUKUYOMI" WAS WRITTEN WITH THE TWO CHINESE CHARACTERS "MOON" AND "READ," AND IN THE JAPANESE CHRONICLES IT IS WRITTEN WITH THE THREE CHINESE CHARACTERS OF "MOON," "NIGHT" AND "SEE." THESE DIFFERENCES IN WRITING MIGHT POINT TO DIFFERENT TIMES OF ESTABLISHMENT FOR THE INNER AND OUTER SHRINES RESPECTIVELY. NOW, AS TO WHY THEY CHOSE THESE SPECIFIC CHINESE CHARACTERS, I HAVE NO IDEA-AND ANYONE WHO HAS A CLUE, I'D BE HAPPY IF YOU'D TELL ME.





LISTEN  
TO  
SEIJI!  
JUST  
LIKE  
HIM...

EVERY  
CHANT  
SAID WITH  
PERFECT  
INTONA-  
TION AND  
PRONUN-  
CIATION!

GA  
YUU  
JYU  
MU  
SHIKI  
YUU  
YOU  
...



NATU-  
RALLY.

I  
HOPE  
YOU'RE  
TAKING  
NOTES  
ON THIS,  
KOU-  
HEI!

MU  
MYOU  
YUU  
GAN  
MU  
SOKU  
YUU  
JYU  
...



MU  
MYOU  
YUU  
GAN  
...

MU  
SOKU  
YUU  
JYU  
...





AND SHE WAS GOOD AT IT. SHE ENJOYED IT.

ONE SMALL GESTURE COULD HAVE MANY DIFFERENT MEANINGS ...

WEAVING THE GESTURES INTO SOMETHING MEANINGFUL IS THE TRICK.

ふふふ

I'M NOT SURE HOW IT WAS DONE LONG AGO ...

...BUT SHIZURU'S DANCE WAS QUITE AMAZING.

PERFORMING THE DANCE BY HERSELF ...

...IS WHAT MADE IT SO ORIGINAL. SO POWERFUL.

SHE WASN'T EVEN TOLD TO DO IT THAT WAY. IT WASN'T NECESSARY.





OH, R-- REALLY?

WELL, SORRY TO BOTHER YOU...

REALLY?

I'M PROBABLY JUST WORRIED ABOUT KOUHEI DOING WELL ...

LIMIT-  
LESS  
...

VISION  
...

RING  
AROUND  
RING  
SURROUND  
...

H  
m  
h  
!

FLICK

IF WE  
ALL  
JUST  
PLAY  
OUR  
PARTS  
...

I  
DON'T  
WANT  
THEM  
ATTACK-  
ING  
BEFORE  
WE  
FINISH  
THE FESTIVAL.

I'VE  
PUT A  
PRO-  
TECTIVE  
CIRCLE  
AROUND  
US...

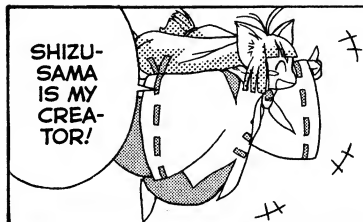
I  
DON'T  
KNOW  
WHAT  
THESE  
VAMPIRES  
WANT,  
BUT...



HAIJI.

HM?  
?

WHAT IS IT?



SHIZU-SAMA IS MY CREATOR!



I WAS HOPING YOU COULD TELL ME MORE ABOUT SHIZU-SAMA?



WHAT IS IT?

...IS "SHIZURU," RIGHT? WHICH IS MY MOTHER'S NAME.

SHIZU-SAMA'S REAL NAME



HEY, HAZUKI.

YES?

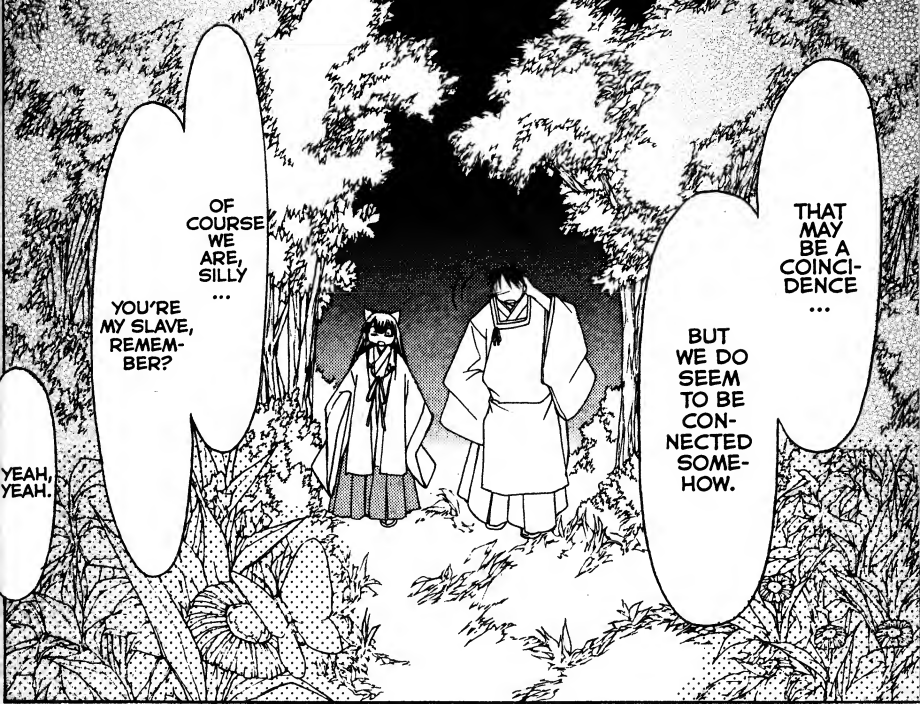


?

I DON'T UNDERSTAND THE QUESTION.

I MEANT, WHAT WAS SHE LIKE...AS A PERSON?

ER, THAT'S NOT REALLY WHAT I HAD IN MIND.



OF COURSE  
WE ARE,  
SILLY  
...

YOU'RE  
MY SLAVE,  
REMEM-  
BER?

YEAH,  
YEAH.

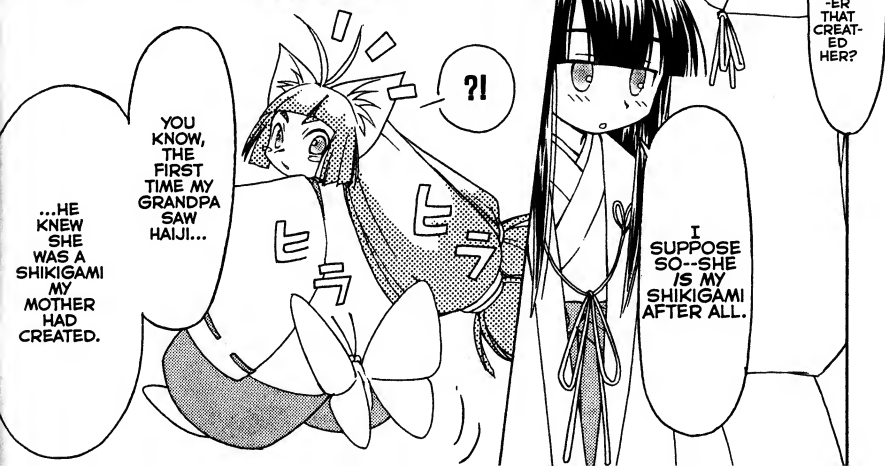
THAT  
MAY  
BE A  
COINCIDENCE  
...

BUT  
WE DO  
SEEM  
TO BE  
CONNECTED  
SOME-  
HOW.



SORRY.

I WANTED  
TO TALK TO  
YOU ABOUT  
IT, BUT  
YOU WERE  
ALWAYS  
PRACTICING.



YOU  
KNOW,  
THE  
FIRST  
TIME MY  
GRANDPA  
SAW  
HAIJI...

...HE  
KNEW  
SHE  
WAS A  
SHIKIGAMI  
MY  
MOTHER  
HAD  
CREATED.

?!  
ㄷ  
ㄷ  
ㄷ

DID  
YOU  
KNOW  
IT WAS  
MY MOTH-  
-ER  
THAT  
CREAT-  
ED  
HER?

I  
SUPPOSE  
SO--SHE  
IS MY  
SHIKIGAMI  
AFTER ALL.



YES,  
AND I THINK  
...

SHE  
LOVES  
YOU.

YOU  
THINK  
SO?



I  
TRIED  
TO PUMP  
HIM FOR  
INFORMA-  
TION...

...BUT  
HE DIDN'T  
REMEMBER  
A THING!



YEAH  
...

I  
KNOW.



I MAY  
KNOW  
...

...WHY  
SHE  
WON'T  
COME  
SEE  
ME.

ACTU-  
ALLY--  
I'VE  
BEEN  
THINK-  
ING.

Yaaaaah!

SEE?  
YOUR MOM  
DIDN'T LEAVE  
INFORMATION  
BEHIND IN  
ORDER TO  
PROTECT  
YOU.



THE  
SAD-  
NESS  
FELT AT  
OUR  
PARTING  
IS END-  
LESS  
...

...BUT  
I KNOW  
THIS  
WORLD  
IS ANY-  
THING  
BUT EN-  
DLESS.


THOSE  
FROM  
BE-  
YOND  
...

BRETH-  
REN  
WHO  
HAVE  
BE-  
COME  
REV-  
ERENT  
SPIRITS  
...



TO THE  
PEACE-  
FUL,  
STILL  
WATERS  
...

TO THE  
HID-  
DEN  
PLA-  
CES  
IN THE  
QUIET  
...



HAZUKI...





I CAN  
DO  
THIS,  
RIGHT?

THE  
SONG  
DEDICATED  
TO THE  
NAMELESS  
PRIESTESS  
...

IT'S  
SUCH  
A KIND  
SONG.  
♡

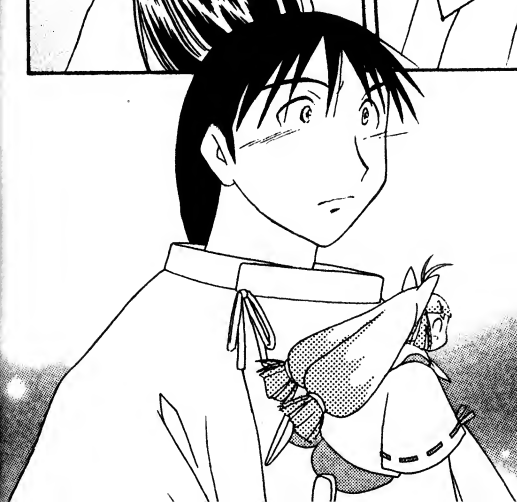
DON'T  
YOU  
THINK?  
♡

YOU'RE  
REALLY  
QUITE  
GOOD.

OF COUR-  
SE...

GO  
MASTER,  
GO!  
♡

THANK  
YOU!  
♡



SHE  
WOULD  
COME  
LOOKING  
FOR  
ME, NO  
MATTER  
WHAT.

MY  
MOTHER  
TOLD ME  
THAT SO  
LONG AS I  
WAS WITH  
HAIJI...



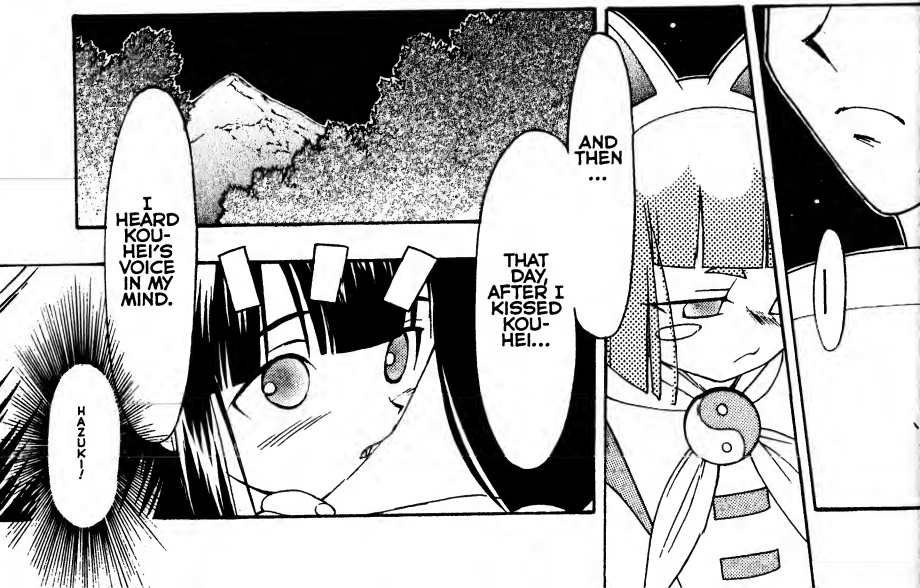
IT'S THAT SHE CAN'T SEARCH FOR ME AT ALL.

IT'S NOT THAT MY MOTHER CAN'T LEAVE TO SEARCH FOR ME...

BUT WHEN I SAW THAT CHILD, I FIGURED IT OUT.

...I WAS ALSO WAITING FOR MY MOTHER.

THAT DAY I WAITED FOR KOUHEI AT FUTSU SHRINE ...



I HEARD KOUHEI'S VOICE IN MY MIND.

THAT DAY AFTER I KISSED KOUHEI...

AND THEN ...

HAAZUKI!



WE  
WERE  
JUST  
IN TUNE  
WITH  
ONE  
ANOTH-  
ER.

I DIDN'T  
READ YOUR  
THOUGHTS  
ON PUR-  
POSE, I  
SWEAR!

IN  
TUNE,  
OKAY?

OKAY,  
OKAY.



I'M  
SORRY  
...

I  
SHOULD  
HAVE  
TOLD  
YOU.

REALLY.  
I'M  
SORRY.

IT  
DOESN'T  
MATTER.



I CAN'T  
TAKE YOU  
TO FIND  
YOUR  
MOTHER  
...

...BUT I  
SWEAR TO  
PROTECT  
YOU.



UM,  
KOUHEI  
...

AREN'T  
YOU  
GOING  
A BIT  
STALK-  
ER  
HERE  
?

AND TO  
PRO-  
TECT  
...

AW,  
THANKS!  
!

I'LL  
ALWAYS  
BE BY  
YOUR  
SIDE  
...

Shush!

...HER  
SMILE.

AND...

YOU  
CAN  
COUNT  
ON  
ME!

AL-  
WAYS!

HAZUKI!!

IN  
ORDER  
TO  
STAY BY  
HAZUKI'S  
SIDE...





I KNOW  
THAT  
YOU'RE  
A MAN,  
WHICH  
MAKES  
YOU THICK  
AS A  
BOARD  
...

WHA  
?!

WHAT  
IS IT?

COME  
HERE!

DID  
I HEAR  
YOU SAY  
SOME-  
THING?

ACTUALLY,  
I THINK  
KAORU  
IS...

NOPE.  
NOTHING.

UM...  
OKAY?

...BUT  
STILL!

KAORU'S  
PRETTY  
SENSITIVE,  
SO I WON'T  
TELL HER.

FIGURE  
IT  
OUT  
!!

BUT, WHAT  
DO YOU  
MEAN BY  
"BE MORE  
DIS-  
CREET"?

OKAY...

BUT BE  
A LITTLE  
MORE  
DIS-  
CREET!

H M...

WHAT  
MAKES  
YOU  
SAY  
THAT?

HAVE  
YOU  
NOTICED  
THAT  
LATELY

...  
KAORU  
HAS BEEN  
ACTING  
KIND OF  
STRANGE  
?

THIS HAD  
BETTER  
BE  
GOOD!

HEY,  
HIKA-  
RU?

I GUESS  
I'M SAY-  
ING SHE  
SEEMS  
DIFFERENT  
SINCE WE  
ARRIVED  
ON THE  
ISLAND.

EVER  
SINCE SHE  
MADE THAT  
PLEDGE TO  
HERSELF  
...

WELL,  
SHE'S  
NORMALLY  
KIND OF  
QUIET,  
RIGHT?

HUH?

AT  
FIRST, I  
DIDN'T  
NOTICE,  
BECAUSE  
SHE WAS  
TALKING  
LIKE A  
NORMAL  
PERSON.

BUT  
YOU'RE  
RIGHT.  
SHE  
HASN'T  
BEEN  
HER-  
SELF.

NOT  
REALLY.

SHE  
NOR-  
MALLY  
DOESN'T  
JUST  
BLURT  
THINGS  
OUT,  
RIGHT?



WHAT  
ARE YOU  
DOING!  
WE'RE ON!

WEREN'T  
YOU  
JUST HERE  
PESTERING  
ME, HIKARU?



HEY,  
YOU  
TWO!

AND ES-  
PECIAL-  
LY YOU,  
HIKARU!

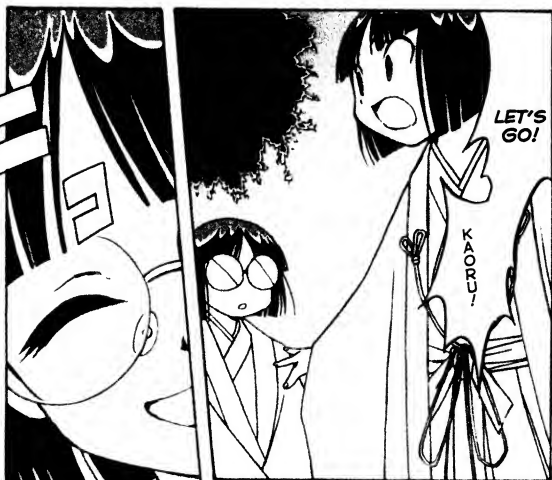


I HEARD  
YOU THE  
FIRST  
TIME!

All  
right  
already!

YAYOI-  
SAMA IS  
CALLING.  
LET'S  
GO!

Grrrr!



LET'S  
GO!

KAORU!



Eek!

OOPS.



KAORU

...

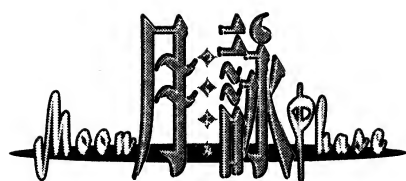


KAORU

...?

YOU'RE  
OKAY,  
AREN'T  
YOU?







THIS LITTLE GEM IS THE "TSUKIYOMI RESTAURANT" LOCATED RIGHT NEXT TO THE INNER SHRINE OF TSUKUYOMI. I CAN UNDERSTAND SELLING ISE UDON, BUT WHAT IN THE WORLD IS ISE PORK CUTLET?! THE ANIMATION PRODUCER FROM NEKOMIMI IS GOING TO CHECK IT OUT PRETTY SOON, ACTUALLY. ARE THERE ANY OTHER BRAVE TAKERS?





DAD,  
HOW  
MUCH  
LONGER  
IS THIS  
GONNA  
TAKE  
...?

I'M  
TIRED  
!

SILENCE  
!



YAWN...



BUT,  
DAD  
...

BEHAVE  
LIKE  
ONE!

YOU'RE A  
SON OF  
THE KIMOTO  
HOUSE-  
HOLD!

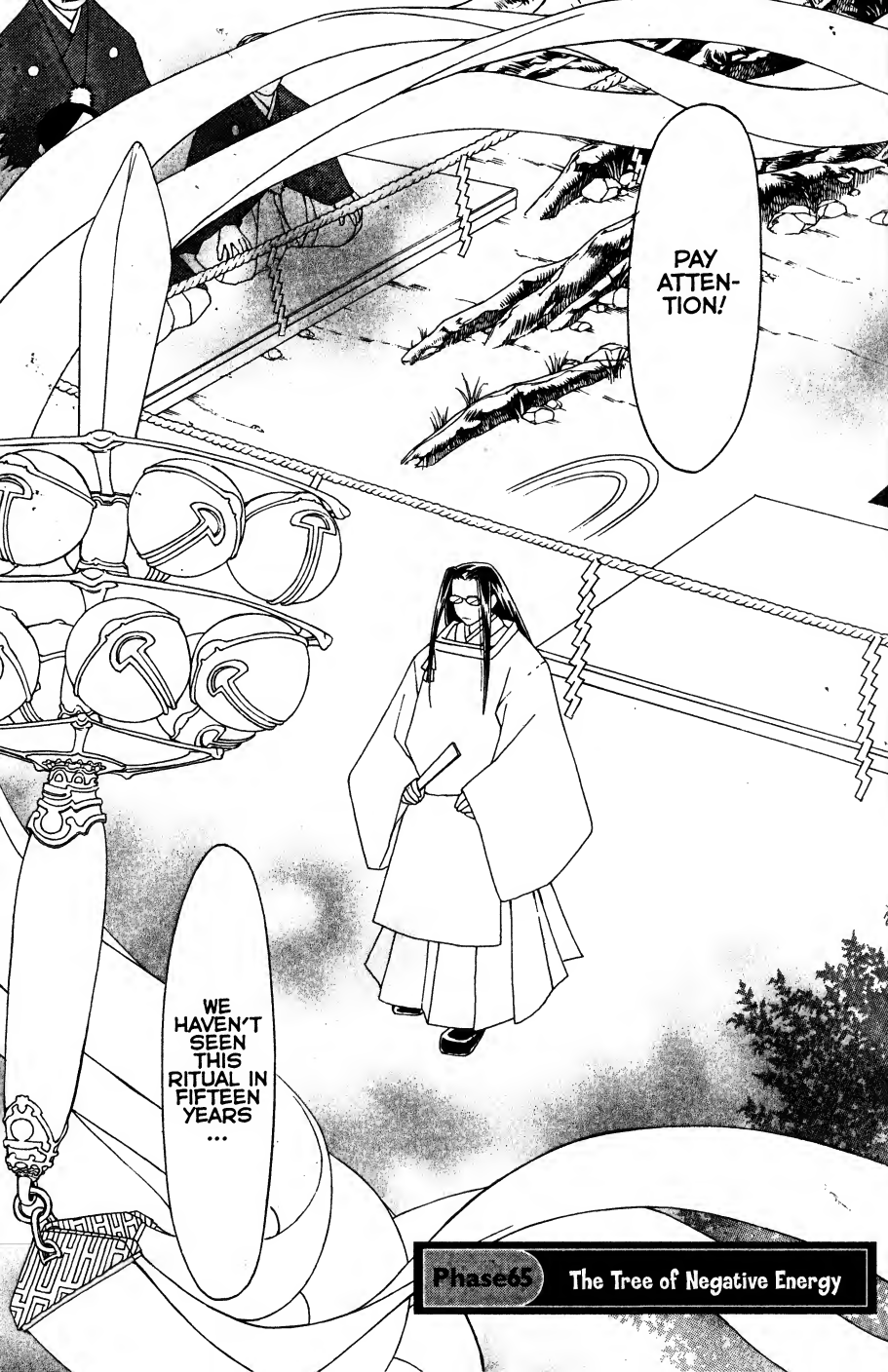


I MEAN,  
THAT GUY'S  
CHANTS  
WERE  
COOL AT  
FIRST, BUT  
IT GETS  
OLD AFTER  
AWHILE...

WHEN  
YOU SAID  
WE WERE  
GOING TO  
A FESTIVAL,  
I THOUGHT IT'D  
BE FUN...

BUT  
THIS WHOLE  
TIME IT'S BEEN  
NOTHING BUT  
THIS BORING  
CHANTING.

YOU  
GOT  
THAT  
RIGHT  
...



PAY  
ATTENTION!

WE  
HAVEN'T  
SEEN  
THIS  
RITUAL IN  
FIFTEEN  
YEARS  
...

Phase65 The Tree of Negative Energy



WELL, I  
SUPPOSE  
I CAN'T  
EXPECT  
MORE  
FROM  
YOU...

I BET  
ICHI-  
ROU'S  
HAVING A  
HARDER  
TIME...

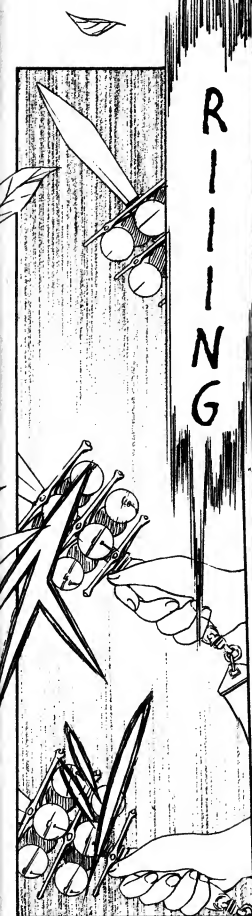
IT'S  
NOT  
EVEN  
LIKE WE  
HAVE  
TOURISTS  
OR ANY-  
THING...

SO I  
DON'T  
GET WHY  
WE GO  
TO THE  
TROUBLE  
TO HAVE  
THIS BIG  
BORING  
FESTIVAL  
...

IT IS  
YOUR  
FIRST  
CERE-  
MONY, AND  
YOU DON'T  
UNDER-  
STAND THE  
IMPOR-  
TANCE.

ICHIROU...





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SO  
AS THE  
VARIOUS  
IMPURITIES  
OF OUR  
SOULS  
...

...ARE  
CLEAN-  
SED,  
PLEASE  
PURIFY  
US.

WOOD

LO!  
LO!  
LO!  
LO!

SO  
AS THE  
VARIOUS  
IMPURITIES  
OF OUR  
SOULS  
...

...ARE  
CLEAN-  
SED,  
PLEASE  
PURIFY  
US.

WOOD

LO!  
LO!  
LO!  
LO!

F W O O O

...ARE CLEANSED, PLEASE PURIFY US.

SO AS THE VARIOUS IMPURITIES OF OUR SOULS ...



AND THE TREE IS RE-LEAS-ING IT.

THE STORED ENERGY IS FLOWING INTO THE FLOWERS ...

THE FLOWERS HAVE BEGUN TO BLOOM.

YES ...

THE ENTIRE TREE IS GLOWING WHITE!



IT'S PROBABLY THEIR FIRST TIME EVER SEEING ANYTHING LIKE THIS.

HEA I KNEW THAT WOULD GRAB HIS ATTENTION  
THEY'RE IN AWE!

...AND YET IT GIVES OFF SUCH A BEAU-TIFUL GLOW.

AMAZ-ING. THE TREE IS PURGING ITSELF OF MALICE AND EVIL...



SELF-LESS SENTIENT BEINGS, AGELESS SENTIENT BEINGS.

A WISH, THOUGH NAME-LESS. NOR-MAL, BUT WITH-OUT LIMBS.

W H O A - - ?!





NO  
SWEAT!

WE'RE  
COUNTING  
ON YOU,  
KOUHEI!

WATCH.  
WHEN  
THE  
FLOW-  
ERS  
HAVE  
BLOS-  
SOMED  
...

...YOU  
MUST  
SPREAD  
OUT  
ALL THE  
PETALS.



BESIDES,  
I HAVE TO  
BE READY  
TO BACK UP  
KOUHEI IF  
HE NEEDS  
IT.

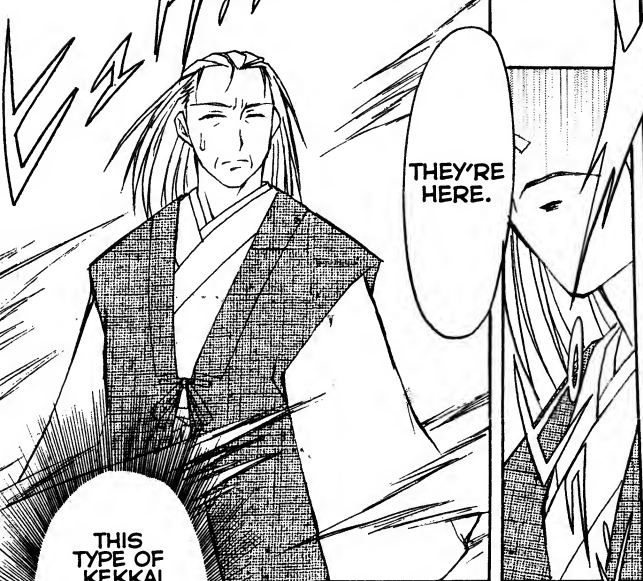
I'M  
AT THE  
READY.



IT WAS  
NOTHING.  
I'M FINE.

YOU'VE  
DONE  
WELL,  
SEIJI.

TAKE A  
BREAK.



THEY'RE  
HERE.

THIS  
TYPE OF  
KEKKAI  
HAS HIDDEN  
CORRIDORS,  
AND EXITS  
THAT  
NEVER  
STAY IN THE  
SAME PLACE  
...

...MAKING  
IT ALMOST  
VIRTUALLY  
IMPOS-  
SIBLE TO  
PENETRATE.



SQUAK

SQUAK

SQUAK



EKK!

RIP



CHUU

SQUEAK

CHUU

WHAT-  
EVER  
SHALL  
YOU  
DO, MY  
LITTLE  
VAM-  
PIRE?

OH  
DEAR!

R I I P  
IF  
YOU'RE  
VERY  
UN-  
LUCKY,  
YOU  
CAN BE-  
COME  
TRAPP-  
ED IN  
ONE OF  
THEM,  
CAUSING  
YOU  
TO BE  
MOVED  
INSIDE  
OF THE  
KEKKAI  
...

...  
EFFECTIVELY  
SPLITTING  
YOUR BODY  
IN TWO.

AHH!

WHAT  
AN IN-  
TER-  
ESTING  
HOBBY  
YOU HAVE!

BUT I  
AM AN  
UNINVITED  
GUEST.

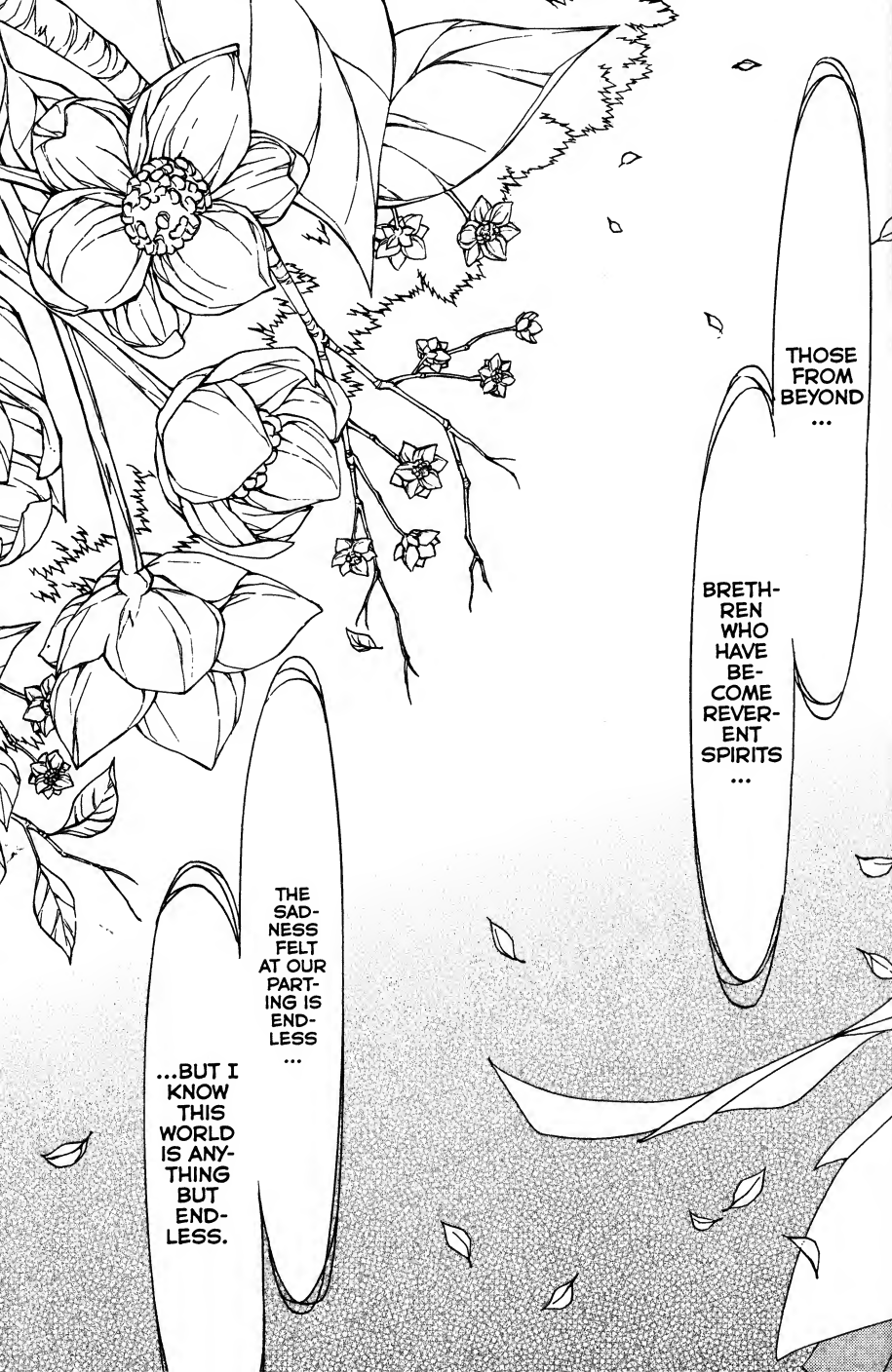
I  
CAN BE  
PATIENT  
...

...  
AND WAIT  
FOR YOU.



AFTER  
ALL,  
THE  
QUEST  
OF  
HONOR  
AT A  
PARTY  
...

...IS  
ALWAYS  
THE  
LAST TO  
ARRIVE.



...BUT I  
KNOW  
THIS  
WORLD  
IS ANY-  
THING  
BUT  
END-  
LESS.

THE  
SAD-  
NESS  
FELT  
AT OUR  
PART-  
ING IS  
END-  
LESS  
...

BRETH-  
REN  
WHO  
HAVE  
BE-  
COME  
REVER-  
ENT  
SPIRITS  
...

THOSE  
FROM  
BEYOND  
...



GO,  
GO  
...

...TO  
THE  
CALM  
AND  
QUIET  
SEA.

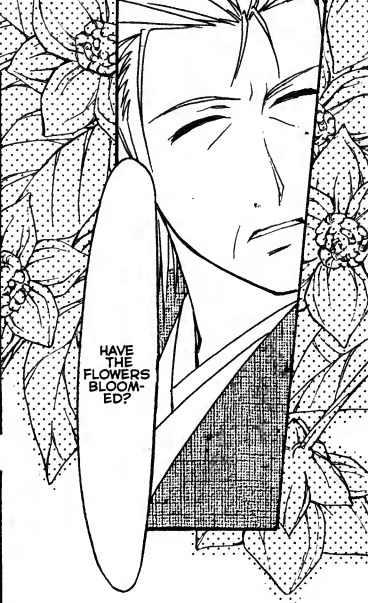
GO,  
GO  
...

...TO  
THE  
GENTLE  
SI-  
LENCE.

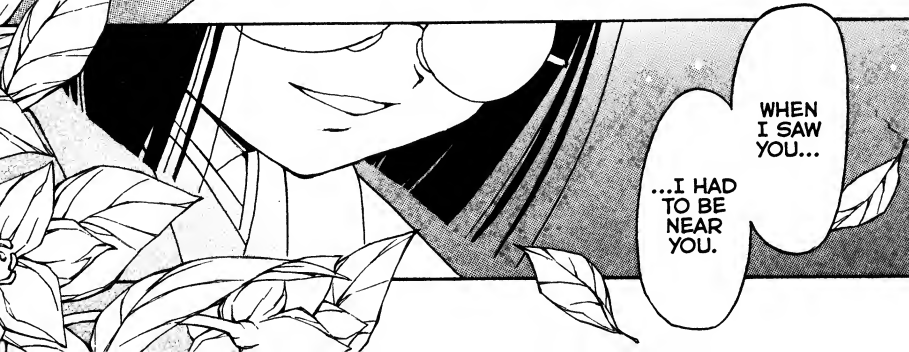
R  
I  
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R  
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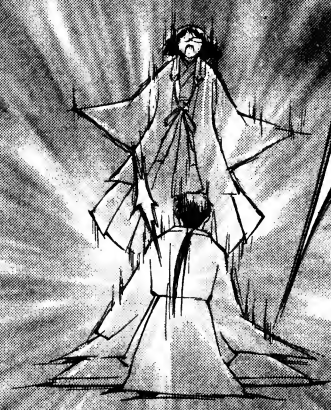








KAORU!



AAAAAAAAHHH!



No --!



What the --?!





WE  
MUST  
STOP  
THIS!

LET  
THE  
WATERS  
OF THE  
RIVER  
...

OH,  
GREAT  
SPIRIT  
...

COME  
INTO TO  
ME.

...  
FLOOD  
THE  
LANDS.

COME  
FORTH  
FILL  
ME!

RISE  
UP.

NO! THIS  
KIND OF  
CURSE  
WILL  
RUIN THE  
RITUAL!

FLOOD  
THE  
LANDS.

LET  
THE  
WAVES  
...

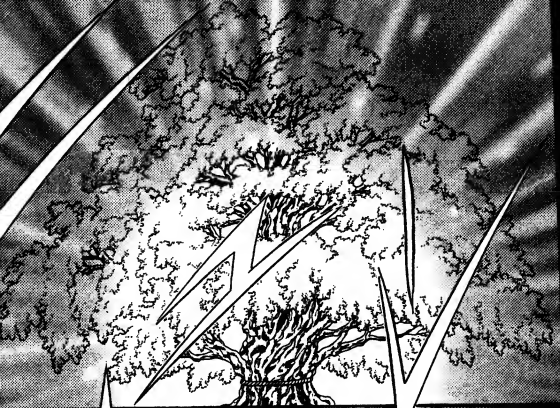
CRASH!

RE-  
TURN  
!!

LET  
THE  
WATERS  
RISE!



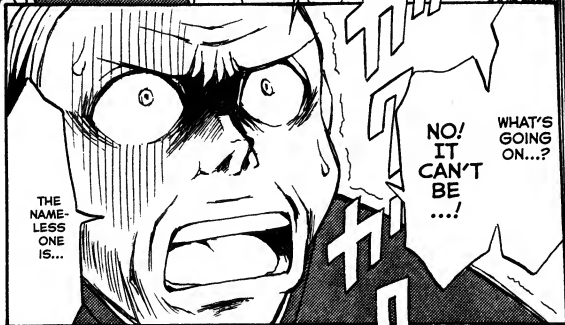
**EN-  
ER-  
GY,  
RE-  
VERSE!**



W-WHAT'S  
HAPPEN-  
ING  
...

DAD?  
!

THE  
TREE  
ISN'T  
GLOW-  
ING  
ANY-  
MORE!



THE  
NAME-  
LESS  
ONE  
IS...

NO!  
IT  
CAN'T  
BE  
...!

WHAT'S  
GOING  
ON...?





Ah  
ha  
ha  
...

Ah  
ha  
ha  
ha!

THE  
TREE!  
IT'S  
SPLIT-  
TING?!

DON'T  
TELL  
ME  
YOU'RE  
SUR-  
PRIS-  
ED!

ISN'T  
THIS  
WONDER-  
FUL?

THEIR  
TERROR IS  
INTOXICAT-  
ING!!





I WAS ONLY TRYING TO GET YOUR ATTENTION, KOUHEI.

Heh..

?!



KOUHEI! DON'T LET HER TRICK YOU!



I'M SORRY, KOUHEI.

I--I HAD NO CHOICE.

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO KAORU?

...AND ALL OF THE NEGATIVE ENERGY IS NOW BEING RELEASED.

THE DEMON WE WERE EXPELLING HAS REVERSED OUR RITUAL...

IF WE DON'T STOP IT SOON...

WHO ARE YOU?!



Mph

...THE  
NEGATIVE  
ENERGY  
...

...WILL  
TAKE  
MATERIAL  
FORM!



WHY  
HAVE I  
BEEN  
BROUGHT  
FORTH  
....

WHO  
HAS  
SUM-  
MONED  
SIN,  
HATRED,  
DECAY?  
....?

W  
H  
E  
R  
E  
  
A  
M  
  
I?

**HATE!**



KOUHEI,  
HERE IT  
COMES!

I  
CURSE  
YOU.

I'M  
READY!



Phase66 A Happy Future

I  
CURSE  
YOU.

I  
CURSE  
YOU.

I  
CURSE  
YOU.





ERASE!



DID IT  
WORK?

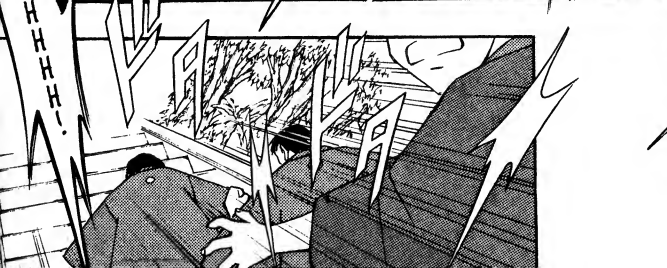


KOU-  
HEI,  
LOOK  
OUT!

?!









H-HEY, THAT'S --

WHAT IS THIS STUFF?!

IT'S STICKY ...

OW!

WHOA!



IT'S FUNNY. I THOUGHT YOU WOULD BE WORTHY OPPONENTS...

IT'S THE BLOOD OF THE MICE.

I OVER-ESTIMATED YOU.

SQUEAK!

ow!!



I'LL  
THINK  
I'LL BE  
LEAVING  
NOW.

WELL,  
SINCE  
YOU  
HAVE  
SO  
GRA-  
CIOUS-  
LY...

...OPEN-  
ED THE  
GATES  
FOR  
ME...

MARIO.  
JAEDA.

.....



DID YOU  
HAP-  
PEN TO  
NOTICE  
...

...WE'VE  
JUST  
PASSED  
THROUGH  
YAYOI-  
SAMA'S  
KEKKAI?

I  
FEEL  
SICK.

EVEN  
IF THEY  
SEE US  
COMING,  
THERE'S  
NOTHING  
THEY CAN  
DO ABOUT  
IT IN ALL  
THAT  
COMMOT-  
ION.

I  
CAN  
SEE  
...

...THAT THE  
NEGATIVE  
ENERGY HAS  
FLOODED  
THE ISLAND.  
EVERYONE IS  
FLEEING IN  
HORROR.

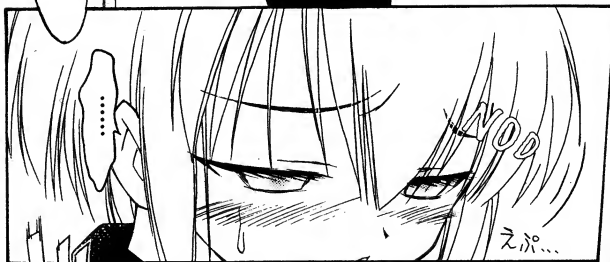


ALTO-SAMA  
SEEMS  
TO BE  
GET-  
TING  
...

...A  
TAD  
SEA-  
SICK.

THERE  
IS  
ONE  
PROB-  
LEM.

LET'S  
SLOW  
THE  
BOAT  
DOWN.



IS THAT  
BETTER?



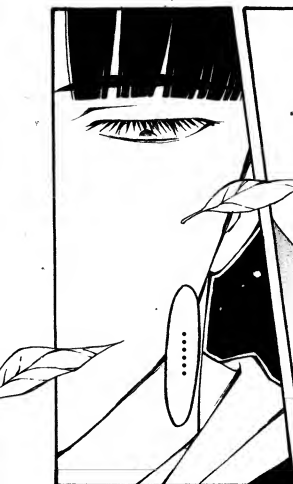
MARIO?

YES?



YOU  
HAVE  
DIFFER-  
ENT  
MOTH-  
ERS.

—



....



IS  
SHE  
...

...  
MORE  
IMPOR-  
TANT  
THAN  
ME?



WHAT  
MAKES  
...

...LUNA  
DIFFER-  
ENT  
FROM  
ME?



...  
YES.

SHE  
IS ONE OF  
A KIND, TO  
ME, JUST  
AS YOU  
ARE.





A large, detailed close-up of a woman's face, likely a noble or aristocrat, with long dark hair and elaborate jewelry including a necklace and earrings. Her expression is serious.

I SEE.

SHE IS  
MORE  
IMPORTANT  
THAN YOU  
AND  
THOSE  
JEWELS.

THERE  
IS NO COMPAR-  
ISON.

WHEN  
I BE-  
CAME  
A PART  
OF THIS  
CLAN  
....

...I RE-  
CEIVED  
JEWELS  
AS A  
MEMEN-  
TO FROM  
THE  
FIRST  
LORD,  
SEINU.

A man wearing a wide-brimmed hat and a dark coat stands in the foreground, looking towards a large, multi-story building or ship in the background. The scene is set on a body of water.

BUT  
ALTO-  
SAMA  
...



I  
WOULD  
HAPPILY  
THROW  
MY  
BODY IN  
MOVING  
WATERS  
...

OR  
SACRI-  
FICE  
MY  
BODY TO  
THE  
SUN  
FOR  
YOU,  
WITH-  
OUT A  
MO-  
MENT'S  
HESITA-  
TION.

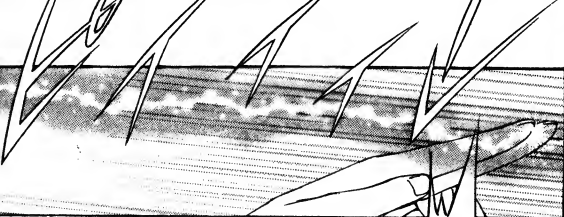
DO  
NOT  
MIS-  
UNDER-  
STAND  
ME, MY  
LADY...

I LIVE  
ONLY TO  
SERVE  
YOU.



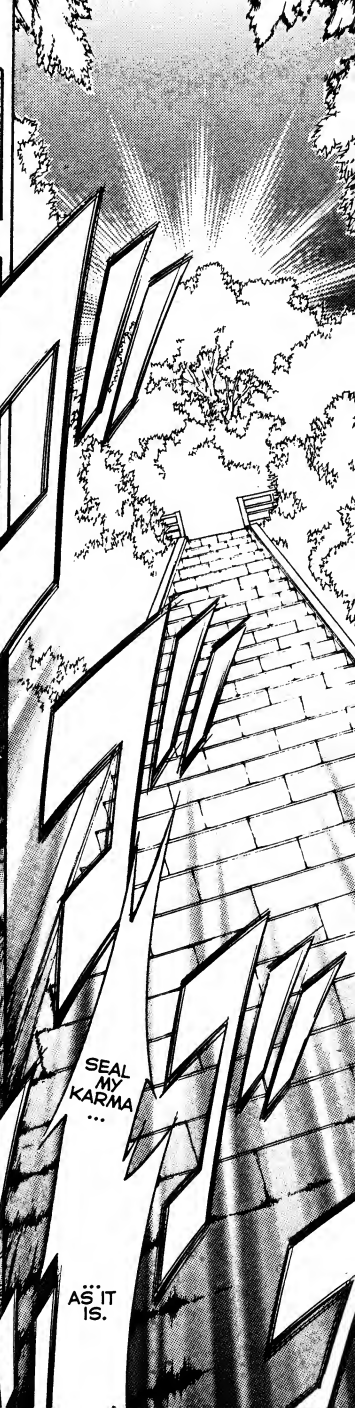
I  
...

...  
HATE  
YOU.



SO  
THAT  
THOSE  
LACKING  
TRUTH  
SHALL  
NOT  
BREACH  
THIS  
BARRIER!

SO  
THAT  
THOSE  
LACKING  
TRUTH  
SHALL  
NOT  
BREACH  
THIS  
BARRIER  
...



SEAL  
MY  
KARMA  
...

... IT  
IS.

WE  
MUST  
...

...  
EVACUATE  
THE  
ISLAND!

ATTENTION  
EVERY-  
ONE!

SEIJI,  
LEAD THE  
PEOPLE  
AWAY!

THAT IS THE  
BEST I CAN  
DO FOR  
NOW--ERECT  
A BARRIER  
TO KEEP IT  
CONTAINED.

YOU  
CAN'T  
EXPECT  
THIS  
TO BE  
DONE SO  
QUICKLY!

HEY!

GET  
AS  
MANY  
BOATS  
AS  
YOU  
CAN...

...AND  
SAIL  
TOWARD  
OZAKI  
PORT!

THE  
PEOPLE  
WILL  
HAVE TO  
EVACUATE  
SO I CAN  
FINISH.

GRAND-  
MA JUST  
GOT TO  
SLEEP!

IF YOU  
DON'T  
HAVE A  
BOAT, GO  
WITH A  
NEIGHBOR  
OR HEAD  
FOR THE  
FERRY.



I'LL  
JUST  
CARRY  
HER ON MY  
SHOULD-  
ERS...

BUT I  
GUESS IN  
AN EMER-  
GENCY  
LIKE  
THIS...



YOU'RE  
WEL-  
COME.

THANKS  
FOR  
YOUR HELP  
...

KO-  
HARU-  
SAN.

WE'RE  
LEAV-  
ING.

I DO  
WHAT I  
CAN...

IN  
THEIR  
HEART,  
EVERYONE  
HAS THE  
ANSWER.

BUT WHEN  
WE GET  
BACK, YOU  
BETTER  
HAVE AN EX-  
PLAN-  
ATION FOR THIS  
DISASTER!

?!  
?



ERASE!



He took off his top jacket. →



GRR!

IT'S NO GOOD TO JUST "ERASE" WHAT'S ON THE SURFACE!

JUST FOLLOW MY LEAD!

IT ISN'T !!

NO!

She took her off, too.

DAMMIT!

IT ISN'T WORKING!



HUH?

WHAT'S IT  
DOING...  
WHY DID  
IT STOP  
MOVING?

FRIENDS  
WHO  
STAND  
BY EACH  
OTHER.

TRUST.

FRIEND-  
SHIP.

LOVE.

SUCH...

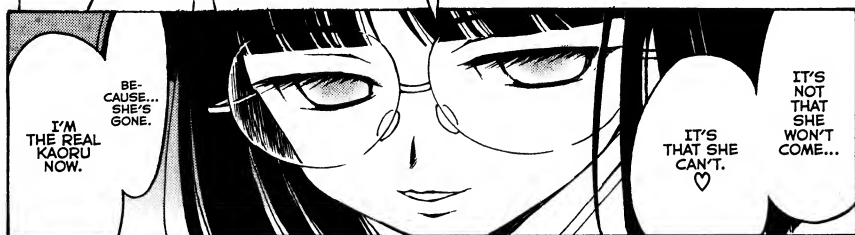
...  
WARM  
FEEL-  
INGS.

KOUHEI!

NOW,  
NOW  
...

ISN'T  
THAT  
NICE  
...

HOW I  
ENVY  
YOU.



WHAT :

THIS  
IS  
DES-  
TINY.

I WILL  
NEVER  
FOR-  
GIVE  
THIS  
WORLD.

...CAN  
I DO  
TO FEEL  
FUL-  
FILLED?

KOOKU—!

LOOK  
OUT!

W  
h  
o  
a  
!!

Alert

WE  
RE-  
JECT  
...

...THIS  
WORLD  
!!

re-  
fuse!





...MICO...

WILL YOU BE ...

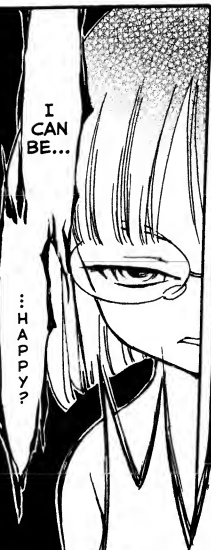
... BY MY SIDE ...

... IN THIS HAPPY FUTURE YOU FOR-SEE?

WHA--?!

SHIT!

I AM A GOOD GIRL..



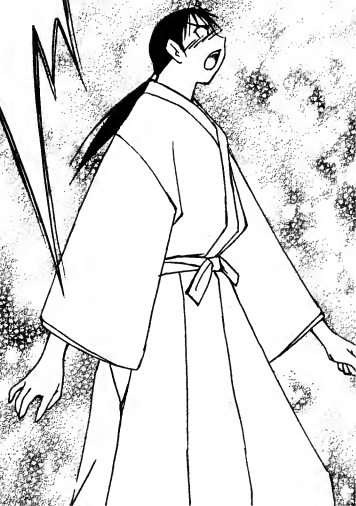
I CAN BE...

... HAPPY?

YOU CAN BE HAPPY. I KNOW YOU CAN!

KAORU I CARE ABOUT YOU...

YOU'RE A GOOD PERSON.



IT'S NOT TRUE!



ホ。ホ。ホ。ホ。

KOICHI... ..

YOU DON'T NEED ME AFTER ALL, DO YOU?

Don't say that!





WELL,  
I'M  
DONE  
...

...BEING  
A GOOD  
GIRL.



